

THE ^{LEVEL ONE} CHRISTIAN

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World



APRIL, 1965

May Ready-for-YOUTH Resources

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LET'S TRAVEL

OUT OF THE BORDER

AFTER THE

DALLAS CONVENTION



THE COMMITTEE OF FIFTY

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Harold E. Westerhoff



In the history of men and movements there are instances of outstanding success through anonymity. Such is the case of the Committee of Fifty of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. These are the unsung heroes, the behind-the-scenes workers. These are they who pledged themselves to second-mile leadership—and delivered on that pledge.

The Committee of Fifty was born in Washington, D.C., out of a challenging message by Dr. Daniel A. Poling to a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the International Society, held in the Capital City during the days of the 47th International Christian Endeavor Convention. Dr. Poling saw something of the financial needs being faced by the International Society for the year 1964, and he was led to do something about it. As is the case with all of his efforts, that something turned out to be something big and important.

Dr. Poling kicked off the effort with a substantial pledge of his own—to raise additional funds above and beyond any-

thing he was already doing. And others followed suit. While the words of his challenge were still echoing through the meeting, \$7,365 was pledged. In subsequent months those pledges rose to \$8,680. Some pledges were simply a determination to "do her utmost" or to "do his best." And that best and that utmost resulted in additional funds of \$9,365 for the ministry of Christian Endeavor International in 1964.

The Committee of Fifty came from all areas of the International Society in 1964. Some were denominational leaders, some union workers, some were interested trustees. Here they are: denominational leaders—Rev. Charles W. Barner, Dr. Elmer Becker, Rev. Walter M. Burkholder and Rev. Ray Zimmerman, Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart, Dr. Raymond M. Veh, Bishop William J. Walls, and Rev. Andrew White.

Union workers numbered among the committee membership included: Eugene G. Alhart, Albert Day, Mozelle Dick,

Linda D. Fleshman, the late Dr. Earle W. Gates, Dwight M. Goodenough, John R. Harper and Frances M. Becker, Dorothy E. Howes, Geraldine Ludwick, Arch J. McQuilkin, Clenzo Miles and Joseph Barnes, Alice Preston, Clyde Sherk, Miriam G. Shopp, and Frank P. Wilson.

Other interested trustees included: Mrs. Ernest R. Bryan, B. McClain Cochran, J. C. Estes, Mary Jackson, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Dr. Daniel K. Poling, Evelyn R. Purdy, Robert C. Ross, Rev. Samuel M. Saffery, Merritt L. Smith, Dr. Gene Stone, Rev. Christian A. Tirre, M. Elizabeth Wells, Rev. W. Lloyd Williams, Elizabeth M. McKnight, and Carroll M. Wright.

Continued for 1965, the Committee of Fifty is an open membership committee. It is a group of dedicated, concerned Christian Endeavorers. You too can be a part of it. Write to the chairman, Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, here at headquarters in Columbus.

Coming Events

April

23-25—Middle Atlantic Regional Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey

Contact: James R. Westerhoff, P.O. Box 265, Hawthorne, New Jersey 07507

23-25—Illinois Spring Conclave, Epworth Springs

Contact: Veva C. Steen, 2104 East Adams, Springfield 62703

May

8—Ontario Junior Convention, Kitchener

Contact: Florence Zimmerman, 231 High Street, Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada

Pray for these Christian Endeavor events!

COVER CLUES

Gail Jaicalone and Gene Van Buren donned Mexican costumes to present their church's work in Chiapas at a supper sponsored by the Christian Endeavor Youth Fellowship of Old North Reformed Church, Dumont, New Jersey. Endeavorers interested in travel to Mexico will find tour details on Page 7.



THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

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THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

1965 International

CONVENTION

In addition to mass meetings each evening with outstanding speakers, there will be many special features during the 48th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Dallas July 6-10.

Convention singing will be led by Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, with Robert C. Ross at the organ. Bishop Meadows is president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union and Bishop for the East District of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Mr. Ross is minister of Memorial Christian Church, Palestine, Texas, and a former associate president of the International Society. Mr. Ross also served as educational secretary and citizenship director. Under the direction of this talented musical team, Dallas is sure to be a singing convention!

The daily Quiet Hour period will be held around the breakfast tables Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings under the direction of Dr. Abraham K. Akaka. Dr. Akaka is pastor of Kawaiahao Church of Honolulu, Hawaii. This historic church is often called the "Westminster Abbey of the Pacific."

The Saturday morning United Youth

Communion Service will be led by Rev. Andrew White, who is the executive secretary of the Division of Christian Education of the African Methodist Episcopal Church with headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. White, a former vice-president of the Golden Rule Union, is a vice-president of the International Society.

Following a morning of educational conferences, the Fellowship Lunch will include fun and inspiration directed by the incomparable Arch J. McQuilkin of Pennsylvania. This will be a popular hour for all delegates as Mr. McQuilkin is an accomplished toastmaster and fun-maker. He is the president of the International Society.

Convention sessions will center in the air-conditioned Statler Hilton Hotel in the heart of Dallas. Economical "package plan" rates offer delegates five nights' lodging Tuesday through Saturday (dormitory style, four to a room) and all meals Wednesday through Saturday, at the very special rate of just \$38. Those desiring double room accommodations will pay \$51 per person; twin room, \$52.25 per person; single occupancy, \$56.

Registration Contest Results

The Dallas Registration Contest began January 4; all state and provincial unions are participating. In addition to awards at check-up dates, parade positions and choice convention seats will be given on the basis of final contest standings, along with a special award to the winning registrar.

At the February 15 check up top honors went to North Carolina, along with a \$10 check for making the greatest gain toward its minimum goal. Oregon won the second award, two free subscriptions to THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

On April 1 awards will be given for first and second place winners, based on the percentage of increase made toward the minimum goal during the report period February 15 through March 31.

At press time North Carolina is out in front with 28% of its minimum goal already in. Next is Oregon with 16%, followed by Pennsylvania with 15%.

The race is just getting under way. Endeavorers are urged to register at once. All registered delegates will receive complete convention information as it is released.



**Come to Dallas
July 6-10 for the
International
Convention**

**REGISTER NOW
PLAN TO PARTICIPATE**

---USE THIS REGISTRATION BLANK---

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR
1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216

(Please print or type)

Please register me for Dallas 1965. I enclose \$5.

Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss _____
(Circle proper title)

Street & No. _____

City, State, and ZIP Code _____

Church _____

(Give full name and denomination)

I am a member of the _____ Christian Endeavor
Society or Youth Fellowship.

Local Union _____

State Union _____

My present responsibility in Christian Endeavor is _____

Age (if under 25) _____ Over 25, check here ☐

VARIETY is the key note of Christian Endeavor Week 1965 activities. Under the theme "My All for Christ" groups planned rallies, banquets, motorcades, parties, evangelistic services, and a multitude of other activities to observe Christian Endeavor's 84th birthday.

In the short space available it is possible to give only a sampling of the numerous activities which were a part of the Week. Thousands of Endeavorers participated in similar programs which helped to bring youth into a full relationship with Christ and the Church and challenged them to total commitment.

TEXAS is getting ready to host the Dallas Convention, so big activities were featured during Christian Endeavor Week.

Dallas District Endeavorers used the theme "Christians Committed—to Christ, to Christian Endeavor, to Dallas '65" when they gathered January 29 at Harris Restaurant in Garland for the annual birthday banquet. Larry Hanby, Dallas District president, was toastmaster, with James Harrelson as song leader and Robert Ross as organist. Mr. Ross will play for the Dallas Convention. Features of the banquet were a citizenship skit by Endeavorers of Lone Oak, a convention skit, and a message on the theme by J. C. Estes, chairman of the Dallas Convention Committee. Mrs. Wanda Adair was general chairman. The largest attendance in years was recorded—over 150!

The High School Society of First Christian Church, Harlingen, entertained the district union at a banquet. They also observed Christian Endeavor Day in the morning and evening services. Mrs. R. H. Fuqua is sponsor.

Glenn Williams, chairman of Christian Endeavor Week at Paul's Union Church in LaMarque, reports that some of the Endeavorers participated in a radio program January 31 over Station KTLW. The program was titled "The Ministry of Christian Endeavor." Junior Highers presented a program on the history of Christian Endeavor and the youth led the evening service on the theme, "My All for Christ."

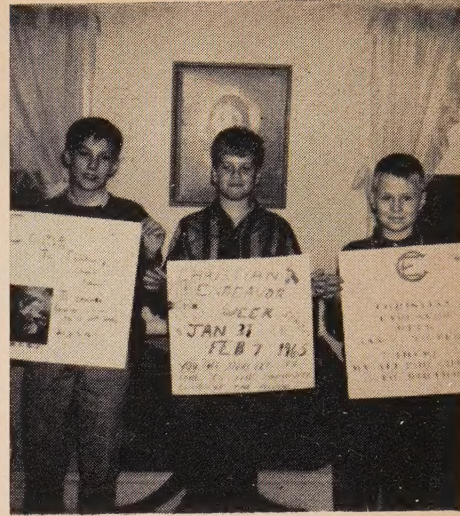
PENNSYLVANIA reports include word of Christian Endeavor Day observance in church services in Bridesburg Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia (Kathleen Rocciatti, president); at Center United Presbyterian Church, Grove City (Robert H. Steese, president); and by the combined societies of the Church of God, York (Mrs. Laverne Crowl, advisor).

Perry County Union held a birthday party with 80 present; various societies presented special music. The radio program was taped and aired February 7 over a local station. Mrs. Joseph W. Bistline is union president.

The five societies of Westmoor Church of Christ, Kingston, participated in worship services January 31 and February 7 and also took charge of the mid-week prayer meeting. A Christian Endeavor Circus for all ages, with 110 in attendance, was a special feature for the week. Co-chairmen of



St. Louis (Missouri) Union's queen and king crowned at the Coronation Banquet are Donna Newell and David Hoffman. Selection was based on church and union activities.



Junior poster contest winners at Community Church of the Pelhams, New York, are (from left) John Ralls, 3rd; Jeffrey Fischer, 2nd; and David Hayes, 1st.

1965 Christian



"Big Tex" posters advertised the Dallas Convention this July and urged Endeavorers to register and attend.



Will Darroh, Palestine (Texas) high school senior, preached February 7 at Memorial Christian Church.

activities were Mrs. Richard Davies and Mrs. John Miller.

The churches in Hanover Branch of York County, Pennsylvania, spread their special services out so all had a chance to visit other society activities. St. Paul's (Dub's) Union Church held special meetings January 28-31; St. David's Union Church (Lutheran and United Church of Christ) set their meetings February 3-7; and St. Bartholomew's Church held their special services February 10-14. A window display in a store on the square of Hanover added to the events of the week. Calvin E. Garrett is branch president.

"My All for Christ" was the birthday banquet theme February 6 when Montgomery County Endeavorers celebrated at Central Schwenkfelder Church. There were 280 present to hear Pastor G. Howard Van Sandt. Gene Troutman is the county union president; banquet chairman was Barry Schaffer.

WEST VIRGINIA youth at Warwood Christian Church, Wheeling, took charge of the evening service February 7, when they presented a program on "The Ministry of Christian Endeavor." Rev. Donald Cover is minister.



Mr. McCathey, representing Mayor Harold S. Zeis of Fort Wayne, Indiana, presents Proclamation to Rev. Reuben Zurcher (left) and Richard Armstrong (center).



Choir of Junior Endeavorers of Third Street United Brethren Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana, sang January 31, Youth Sunday. Mrs. Merle Sivits is director.

Endeavor Week



First of a week-long series of events planned by Peoria Area (Illinois) Union was this February 1 skating party.

GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND Endeavorers report a very inspiring and profitable Christian Endeavor Week. These Endeavorers of the British West Indies planned a week of events—January 31, a combined service with the Woman's Guild at Elmslie Memorial Presbyterian Church; February 1, a missionary service; February 2, a birthday party in the Town Hall; February 3, a united service in Bodden Town; February 4, an all-day outing and conference at the Manse Grounds, East End; February 5, consecration service; February 6, Galilean service at the seashore; and Christian Endeavor Day activities February 7.



Unique birthday cake at Peoria Area (Illinois) Hymnsing is actually a bank with Bible promises as candles.

COLORADO leaders report an outstanding birthday banquet at First Reformed Church in Denver. Speaker was Libor Brom, a Czechoslovakian refugee, who spoke on "Christ or Communism." Music for the Denver District event was provided by the Northwestern College Male Quartet from Orange City, Iowa.

ONTARIO Endeavorers marked the birthday, too. In Hamilton a special service was held February 7 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church with Sampson Elisha of India as the speaker. A Fellowship Hour followed the service, with a birthday cake cut by Mrs. J. Reid as a special feature.

VIRGINIA activities included a banquet February 5 planned by the Richmond Christian Endeavor Fellowship, under the direction of Eleanor Fleshman. Rev. Joseph C. Matthews III, pastor of Village Presbyterian Church, spoke on "My All for Christ." A unique feature was a treasure chest offering for worldwide Christian Endeavor.

Roanoke Union Endeavorers held a birthday banquet February 5. Alva T. Hillman was toastmaster with Mrs. Virginia S. Campbell giving the closing challenge by putting together a large valentine as she talked, demonstrating "My All for Christ."

Juniors of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, under the direction of their sponsor, Lena E. Morgan, invited their parents to the February 7 meeting. The history of Christian Endeavor was reviewed and punch and cake were served. The three societies of the church took charge of the evening service. J. E. Pringle is minister.

Junior Endeavorers at Woodside Presbyterian Church in Roanoke also had a busy week. They held a special birthday party, participated in the Roanoke Union Banquet, and then presented a play for the congregation. Fleta Hunley is sponsor.

Hope Chapel of Norfolk planned a complete week of activities. They began with a television program on Sunday. Monday night they held a prayer service, Tuesday night a banquet with 64 present, Wednesday night the regular weekly meeting planned by the Juniors, Thursday night a Hat Social with each one wearing a hat decorated to represent a hymn, and Friday night a playlet on the founding of Christian Endeavor.

MINNESOTA Junior Endeavorers of Greenleafton Reformed Church in Preston planned a special birthday program using readings and topics on the 84th anniversary. Mrs. W. Harlan Grooters is sponsor.

INDIANA activities included special events at Bethany Christian Church, Indianapolis. Wesley T. Wilson, chairman of the Christian Endeavor Committee, reports that Rev. Robert F. Carter, their new pastor, preached his first sermon on Christian Endeavor Day. A "Moonlight and Roses" banquet on February 5 featured the crowning of a king (Bill Reed) and a queen (Mary Civils), both of the senior society.

OREGON Junior High and High School youth of Astoria Christian Church invited all church youth of Astoria to a special birthday party, with 130 in attendance. Mrs. Edith Romsos is Junior High advisor.

NEW YORK activities included special events at the Community Church of the Pelhams. Mrs. Robert Hoffman, advisor, reports that members of the Junior and Senior societies took complete charge of the morning service on January 31. The Intermediates attended as a group.

NEW MEXICO reports activities at Alameda First Christian Church of Albuquerque. Leroy B. Mills is minister of this new church. Junior Endeavorers held a party with a special decorated cake.

(Continued on next page)



THREE SOCIETIES of Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church, Boyertown, Pennsylvania, invited Pleasantville Endeavorers to be guests at their February 2 banquet. Speaker was Steward Severns.

(Continued from page 5)

ILLINOIS youth at Third Presbyterian Church in Springfield participated in the early service on January 31 with deacon Paul Barnett, county and state union officer, speaking on "My All for Christ." The youth of the church had a Hidden Treasure Party on Saturday night.



"MY ALL FOR CHRIST" was the birthday banquet theme February 5 when Carroll County (Maryland) Endeavorers celebrated at Reese. Rev. Martin Case, pastor of Thurmont-Emmitsburg Methodist charge, spoke to the 138 who were present. Master of Ceremonies was Rev. William M. Hendricks, Taneytown United Presbyterian Church. Carroll V. Tinkler is county union president.

MARYLAND Endeavorers of Washington County held a banquet February 11 at Grace Evangelical United Brethren Church in Hagerstown. Speaker was Maryland Union president, Rev. Howard M. Yohe. Toastmaster was Herb Wilson, former state president. Leonard Poffenberger, Washington County president, brought greetings.

IDAHO youth at Cream Ridge United Brethren in Christ Church had a busy week. After observing Christian Endeavor Day in the church service January 31, they visited shut-ins and honored their pastor and wife at an anniversary dinner on February 1. They also held a special praise and prayer service February 4.

1965 Citizenship Awards Program Judges

For Individual Entries



Fayne F.
Freshwater



Timothy J. Kribs



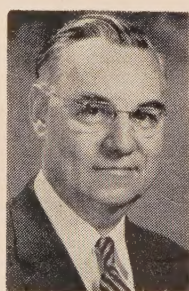
Rev. Andrew White

Both individuals and societies are competing in the 1965 Citizenship Awards Program. Judges for the individual competition are Fayne F. Freshwater of Columbus, Ohio; Timothy J. Kribs of Harrisburg, Oregon; and Rev. Andrew White of Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Freshwater is an architect with Freshwater-Harrison and Associates; his firm designed the Christian Endeavor headquarters in Columbus, built in 1953. Mr. Kribs is minister of Harrisburg Christian Church. He was associate president of the International Society 1957-1963 and is currently a member of the Executive Committee, chairman of the Dallas Program Committee, and chairman of the Adult Work Committee. Mr. White is executive secretary-treasurer of the Division of Christian Education of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He is now serving as vice-president and member of the Executive Committee of the International Society.

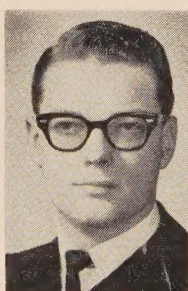
For Society Competition



Chet Long



Bishop Clyde W.
Meadows



Rev. Nathan H.
VanderWerf

Judges for the society competition include Chet Long of Columbus, Ohio; Bishop Clyde W. Meadows of Huntington, Indiana; and Rev. Nathan H. VanderWerf, also of Columbus. Mr. Long is a central Ohio television personality, having been a newscaster with WBNS-TV since 1949. He is the son of a minister and participates in many community activities. Bishop Meadows is president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union and is bishop for the East District of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Mr. VanderWerf, an ordained minister in the Reformed Church of America, is associate director of the Columbus Area Council of Churches. He is a member of the Youth Work Committee of the International Society. Before coming to Columbus in 1964 he served Reformed Churches in Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan.

Winners in the 1965 Citizenship Awards Program will be announced April 26.



Palace of Fine Arts, Mexico City

Tour Mexico And Guatemala

For a vacation with a purpose, Christian Endeavorers are invited to join the International Fellowship Tour to Mexico and Guatemala July 6-25.

The tour is tailored to Christian Endeavor with Christian Endeavor contacts all along the way. The itinerary includes visits to Dallas; Mexico City; Guatemala City, Chichicastenango, Lake Atitlan, and Antigua in Guatemala; Merida, Chichen Itza, and Uxmal in Yucatan; the Island of Cozumel—and many other places in these lands of color and contrast.

The all-expense, personally conducted tour begins July 6 in Dallas with the great 48th International Christian Endeavor Convention. On Sunday, July 11, the tour party will depart for Mexico City, Guatemala, and Yucatan. The tour ends in New Orleans on Sunday afternoon, July 25. The price is \$810 at present published prices.

A deposit of \$200 will reserve a place for you on this tour. For further information contact Harold E. Westerhoff, tour director, International Society.

Send a Copy To Your Friends

... WITHOUT CHARGE

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Please send a free copy of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD with my compliments to the persons listed below:

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To _____

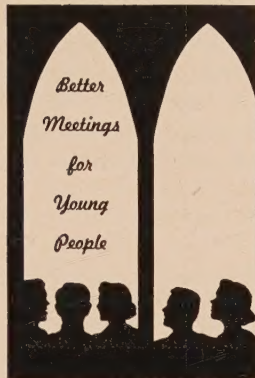
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Sender _____

Address _____

FOR A BETTER SOCIETY PROGRAM



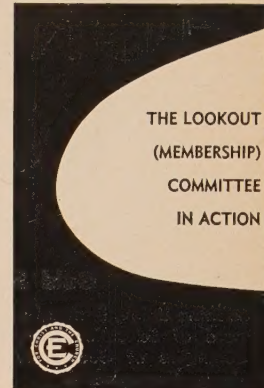
An excellent resource for the local society. Written by Dr. Harry Thomas Stock, the material has been completely revised and up-dated. Includes details about different types of meetings, the worship service, enlisting participation, etc. Over 100 pages of vital information.

\$1.75 a copy



Contains 25 undated programs, a selection of the best topic treatments appearing in recent issues of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. An excellent resource for any society — Junior High, Senior High, or Young People's age. A supplemental source of program material.

\$1.50 a copy



The first of a series of ACTION booklets, one for each of the five major committees. Gives detailed instructions for organizing the committee, holding present members, and recruiting new ones. Pages are provided to list the society members and to record attendance and participation.

60c a copy

Publishing Department
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR
1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216

Please send me the following materials:

_____ BETTER MEETINGS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE @ \$1.75 each \$ _____

_____ TOP TEEN PROGRAMS @ \$1.50 each _____

_____ THE LOOKOUT (MEMBERSHIP) COMMITTEE IN ACTION
@ 60c each _____

Total remittance enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, and ZIP Code _____

Church or Union _____

1965 SOCIETY HONOR ROLL



Societies and unions which have officially become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by financial support during the 1965 Society Roll Call during December, January, and February are listed here. Each of these organizations has received an enrollment certificate. Those receiving a gold seal certificate have contributed \$50 or more. Red seals are used on certificates to those giving \$30, while blue seals represent a contribution of \$15.

Each group listed is also eligible to make a nomination in the 1965 Endeavorer of the Year selection. This is sponsored by the International Society to recognize outstanding youth and to encourage young people in their Christian witness. The winning Endeavorer, along with three runners-up, will be announced May 25.

Groups are arranged alphabetically by states and provinces. Others who enroll will be listed in future issues.

Gold Seal

Alabama Union, Birmingham, Alabama
Board of Education, General Eldership of the Churches of God in North America, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Red Seal

Junior and Intermediate, Chesterfield Christian Church, Des Moines, Iowa
Franklin County Union, Columbus, Ohio
Junior High, King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
D. C. Alumni Fellowship, Washington, D. C.

Blue Seal

Denver District Union, Denver, Colorado
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wilmington, Delaware
First Baptist Church, Georgetown, Washington, D. C.
Golden Rule Union, Washington, D. C.
John Wesley A. M. E. Zion Church, Washington, D. C.
Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.
Third Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.
Zion Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.
Young People's, Kanaana Hou Congregational Church, Kalaupapa, Molokai, Hawaii
Imiola Congregational Church, Kamuela, Hawaii
Calumet Division, Chicago Union, Chicago, Illinois
Senior, First Reformed Church of Gano, Chicago, Illinois
Adult, Claytonville United Brethren Church, Claytonville, Illinois
Vermillion County Alumni Association, Danville, Illinois
Junior, Ebenezer Reformed Church, Morrison, Illinois
Intermediate, Ebenezer Reformed Church, Morrison, Illinois
Senior High, Ebenezer Reformed Church, Morrison, Illinois
Alumni Council, United Congregational Church, Oak Park, Illinois
Grace Presbyterian Church, Peoria, Illinois
Sangamon County Union, Springfield, Illinois
Senior, Third Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Illinois
Senior, Terrace Parke General Baptist Church, Evansville, Indiana
Adult, Crestview United Brethren Church, Lafayette, Indiana
Intermediate, Bethel Reformed Church, Ashton, Iowa
Junior, Trinity Reformed Church, Pella, Iowa
Clay General Baptist Church, Clay, Kentucky
Junior High, Brooklyn Park United Brethren Church, Baltimore, Maryland

Carroll County Union, Westminster, Maryland
First United Brethren Church, Hillsdale, Michigan
Harlem Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan
Junior, Forest Grove Reformed Church, Hudsonville, Michigan
Senior High Fellowship, First Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Youth Fellowship, Hope Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Adult Alumni Department, New Jersey Union, Bloomfield, New Jersey
First Presbyterian Church, Paterson, New Jersey
Young People's, Second Reformed Church, Somerville, New Jersey
New Baltimore Reformed Church, New Baltimore, New York
Alumni Fellowship of New York City, New York
Senior, Community Church of Little Neck, New York, New York
Christian Endeavor Society, Williamson, New York
Dutch Reformed Church, Woodstock, New York
Adult, Central Tabernacle, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Sunbeam, Central Tabernacle, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Young People's, Central Tabernacle, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Bethel United Presbyterian Church, Bellaire, Ohio
Adult, Otterbein United Brethren Church, Celina, Ohio
Adult, Miles Avenue Church of Christ, Cleveland, Ohio
Intermediate, Miles Avenue Church of Christ, Cleveland, Ohio
Junior, Miles Avenue Church of Christ, Cleveland, Ohio
Senior, Miles Avenue Church of Christ, Cleveland, Ohio
Senior, United Presbyterian Church, Covington, Ohio
High School, Prescott Avenue United Brethren Church, Dayton, Ohio
Somerville United Presbyterian Church, Somerville, Ohio
Wren Circuit, United Brethren in Christ Church, Van Wert, Ohio
Junior, Boulevard Evangelical Congregational Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania
High School, Calvary United Presbyterian Church, Baden, Pennsylvania
Societies of Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church, Boyertown, Pennsylvania
Senior, King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
Young People's, King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
Senior, Central Methodist Church, Connellsville, Pennsylvania
Adult Community, Zions Reformed Church, Greenville, Pennsylvania

Junior, Center United Presbyterian Church, Grove City, Pennsylvania
St. Bartholomew's Union Church, Hanover, Pennsylvania
St. David's Lutheran and United Church of Christ, Hanover, Pennsylvania
Societies of Westmoor Church of Christ, Kingston, Pennsylvania
Unity Presbyterian Church, Mercer, Pennsylvania
Montgomery County Union, Norristown, Pennsylvania
Societies of Palm Schwenkfelder Church, Palm, Pennsylvania
Alumni, St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Senior, Leverington Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Societies of Westminster-Mayfair Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Zion German Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Alumni, Zion German Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Endeavor Service Club, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Bethany Evangelical Congregational Church, Reading, Pennsylvania
Mercer County Union, Sandy Lake, Pennsylvania
Owensdale Evangelical United Brethren Church, Scottsdale, Pennsylvania
Alumni Association of Luzerne County, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Seventh Day Baptist Church, Ashaway, Rhode Island
Senior High, Mt. Olivet United Brethren in Christ Church, Churchville, Virginia
Adult, Mt. Olivet United Brethren Church, Mt. Solon, Virginia
Hope Chapel, Norfolk, Virginia
Young People's, Village Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia
Fifth Street United Brethren Church, Staunton, Virginia
Adult Fellowship, First Evangelical United Brethren Church, Martinsburg, West Virginia
Junior, Spring Green Congregational Church, Spring Green, Wisconsin
Young People's, Garrison Road United Brethren Church, Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada
Adult, New Dundee United Brethren Church, New Dundee, Ontario, Canada
Intermediate, Grace United Brethren Church, Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada
Lambton County Fellowship, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
Adult, Sherkston United Brethren Church, Sherkston, Ontario, Canada
Young People's, Cooke's Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Georgetown Society, Elmslie Memorial Presbyterian Church, Grand Cayman, British West Indies

NEWS AND VIEWS

• "CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR is going very successfully in our church," writes a young minister. "We now have four groups: Junior, Junior High, Freshman, and Senior High. * * * I am working on getting a county union going, with a meeting of interested pastors on March 9. It is amazing that in nine months with Christian Endeavor our church and I myself personally have been involved in more stimulating youth activities than in four years with (another youth program)."



EIGHT PRESIDENTS above represent the Reformed Church Junior societies which participated in the Junior Rally January 17 at Spring Valley Reformed Church in the Fulton, Illinois, area. Rev. Vernon Hoffs is pastor. Veva C. Steen, Illinois Union president, reports 199 attended. Rev. Donald Boss spoke on "Big Hearted."

• FEBRUARY FREEZE was the name for the annual Ontario Leadership Conference February 27-28 at Grace United Brethren Church in Sherston. Approximately 70 attended. Reports indicate a wonderful time of inspiration, fun, and fellowship.

• THANK YOU to the James Sheehan Sign Company of Springfield and the Herrin Advertising Company of Jacksonville. Both Illinois companies participated in the 1965 Outdoor Poster Program. Inadvertently their names were omitted from the listing in the last issue.

• LOS ANGELES (California) Union has completely redecorated its offices in San Gabriel. The executive field secretary, Cecil A. Jeffery, reports a new sign on the outside of the building, new desks and electric typewriters, and attractive new display boards for Christian Endeavor materials. "An Affair of the Heart" was the theme of the Fellowship Club Banquet January 29 at First Baptist Church in Los Angeles, with a "Hearty Party" at the Moravian Church in Covina on Valentine's Day. Endeavorers of the Los Angeles area have also been enjoying winter snow conferences at Tahquitz Pines during February and March.

• MARGARET JEAN LESEIKO of Ambridge, Pennsylvania, was awarded the Freedoms Foundation George Washington Honor Medal for the letter to the editor which won for her first award in the 1964 Citizenship Awards Program. Congratulations, Margaret, for this additional honor!

• OPERATION IMPACT is under way in Australia. The climax will be during their Christian Endeavor Week June 1-7. Emphases included are visitation evangelism, citizenship activities, a Work Day for Christ June 5, radio and television programs, and banquets, displays, or demonstrations in local churches.



NEW OFFICERS of Northeastern Union elected February 6 at the annual birthday banquet in Fort Wayne, Indiana, meet with Rev. Ray Zimmerman (center), executive advisor. Patricia Cotton of Huntington is the new president. Mr. Zimmerman is heading up the committee which is reactivating the Indiana Union.

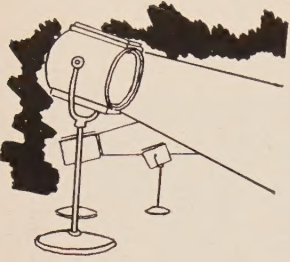
• ATLANTIC CITY will be the meeting place April 23-25 for Endeavorers from the Middle Atlantic Region. Sessions will be held at the Hotel Madison, near the boardwalk. The program will emphasize evangelism, using the theme "Through Christ I Can—Win." Cost for full-time delegates is \$22.50. Program chairman is the regional vice-president, James R. Westerhoff.

• THE SAMOAN Christian Endeavor Union, with nearly 250 societies, has a close link with New Zealand. A Samoan Society was formed recently in Auckland. Members sang at the 83rd anniversary rally when Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, World's Union president, spoke.

NEW ZEALAND delegates pose for official photo at Hastings during the 34th biennial conference January 2-8. Capt. E. J. Norton, newly-elected national president, is seated eighth from the left in the front row. Next to him is Rev. Allan Burron, principal of the New Zealand Bible Training Institute, who was major conference speaker. Murray F. Smith, national secretary, is seventh from right in the front row.



Ready - for - YOUTH RESOURCES



SPOTLIGHTING: The Missionary Committee

by Mrs. Wesley Brown

Black? White!
Lost? Found!
Red? Fire!
Up? Ladder!

And so the psychologist uses a word game, trying to get at the trouble of his patient. When he poses a single word as a question and then asks for a quick answer, he often discovers a fear or buried hate that will come out in the one word which the patient must give for an answer. And any good doctor can take the answers and look for a pattern in them.

Two Vital Words

I have often thought that I would like to play this game with the two words *mission* and *missionary*. Of course, I already know some of the answers, and it's not hard to see where the trouble is. I can imagine going down the row in your Christian Endeavor society and pointing to each member. "Mission?" I would say. And back would come some fantastic answers: Japan, station, pilot. And no one would say, *my life, my job, Jesus' command*.

Or I could say, "Missionary?" The instant answers would come back: old, doctor, Africa, teacher, travel, preach. But would anyone answer, *a Christian, or me?* I have had some experience with people's ideas about missionaries. In fact, simply because I'm fairly young and my clothes fit, I am seldom recognized as a missionary. In one church when I arrived to speak at a meeting, a very friendly woman asked me if I had come to visit. When I said that I had really come to speak, she looked quite unhappy and said, "But what happened to the missionary who was supposed to speak?" I said that I was the missionary. She'll get over the shock some day, I imagine! The fact is that she is no different from many people, Christian or not, who have their own pictures of missions and missionaries. The really bad thing about the picture is that a lot of the time the Christian doesn't see himself in missions at all.

When Jesus said to His disciples, "Go ye into all the world . . ." they did not start out by flying to Africa! The witness of Christians has always been to the people closest to them. If you love your family and neighbors and friends, you will want *them* to have a right relationship to God in Jesus. Well, how can your missionary committee help your society take part in missions?

Missions Far Away

Most societies need to understand what these two words really mean. Some churches have missionary conferences once a year. Christian Endeavorers are able to hear missionaries speak or to watch slides and movies taken in countries where the church is helping Christians overseas. Sometimes the committee can even invite a speaker to come and talk about the things that he needs to do his work and how the Endeavorers can help. Usually these chances don't come often, and even though there are books to read or pictures on the wall, the whole idea of missions is going to seem like something that is happening far away. Your group needs to have *direct contact* with missionaries in action first, and then they must take their place in witnessing.

Two of the best ways to know overseas missionaries are by letter and tape recordings. If you have a poster with the picture of a missionary and his country and job, you've made a start. But really to know him, you'll have to write letters telling him that you want to know what he needs and what to pray for. Maybe you can find someone in the church or town that has a tape recorder and you will be able to send a tape of one of your

meetings overseas. The missionary can then "talk back," and you'll know him better when you hear his voice and listen to his story. The moment you say, "How can we help? What shall we pray for?" you're on the way to becoming an essential part in missions.

Sometimes a society can ask for a special project and send money or packages to missionaries they know. Endeavorers in Ohio have a special place in the hearts of school children in our area of Congo because certain groups asked us what they could do to help young people in Congo. We told them! (*Most overseas missionaries have half a dozen things they want to do and need to do if someone would just help them.*) When the volleyballs began to arrive in Congo and we took them up to the school, we were only the link between our Congolese young people and the groups in America who had cared enough to want to help. The missionary may tell his friends that the American Christians love him and want to help, but only the Christians at home can prove it. I play an accordion in Congo that came to me through a group of Christian Endeavor societies, and every time it rings out in the village I think about the Endeavorers who bought it.

Missions at Home

If the missionary committee is really working, it will meet with the program committee and ask for three or four Sundays in one month when a series of meetings can be organized around the theme *Witnessing or Christian Brotherhood* (Race Relations). There are books and materials ready for you to use, and your counselor or pastor can help you order them. There is no confusion in the Bible about which Christians should be speaking out about their faith in Christ. Whether or not all of us witness is one test of our own experience with Christ. In Matthew 5:16 these words of Jesus have been written for us. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

A great many people seem to think that these good works done in total silence will automatically glorify God. That's a lot of nonsense, of course, because non-Christians will watch the Christian in action and say, "He's really a terrific guy. You can trust him . . ." And so the Christian gets the glory simply because he never witnessed with his mouth that *Christ* is Lord in his life. If you haven't been bringing new young people into your society and if many members don't know what to say or how to witness, your society needs several meetings to point the way.

There are many needy people in your town, perhaps even in your church. They may be hungry, but more likely they're lonely or unhappy or simply suffering because the color of their skin has cut them off from your Christian witness. Don't think for a minute that people around the world aren't watching the Christians of America! Africans have said to me, "Why will your people give their money to send you to Congo when they won't help Negroes in their own country?" It's not always easy to explain what is going on in America, but what it really boils down to many times is that *Christian love* is nowhere in sight. A Christian Endeavor group, led by the missionary committee, can break the sound barrier. Collecting canned food at Thanksgiving may be a good missionary project, but it can't hold a candle to the lasting effect of a *person-to-person* program.

The missionary committee is charged with directing the gifts and prayers and lives of the members toward the moment when each Endeavorer will say, "Mission? *My job!* Missionary? *Me!*"

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topics

FOR JUNIOR HIGHS

Topic 2 in a Unit: The Growing Christian

Here's How

I Corinthians 3:1-9

GROWING

Publicize and Promote

This series of two meetings on *The Growing Christian* will be best publicized together. A continuation of the baby and teen-age pictures as suggested in last week's topic can be followed for another week. Don't give up on the telephone calls, post cards, and personal invitations.

For the Leader and/or Counselor

This topic is the second in the series *The Growing Christian*. Give a leader's talk that will review some of last week's discussion and prepare the young people for this week's. As one prepares for his life's career, he must follow prescribed training and courses of study. To be mature Christians requires following the rules of Christian growth. As the topic is presented, note the definite steps of growth. The basic steps for becoming a Christian and maturing in Christ will be studied.

This is the first Sunday of the month and might therefore be observed as Consecration Sunday. In the preceding week, remind the young people of this observance and suggest they be ready to present Scripture verses or poetry pertaining to spiritual growth.

Talks on the Topic

"By Grace Are Ye Saved"

The same three stages of growth that we see in physical maturity we see also in spiritual maturity. They are childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Childhood is the first stage. There are three characteristics of spiritual childhood, three things of which one is aware. First, as he has come to know Christ as his personal Saviour, his sins are forgiven. He realizes he is a sinner and has need for a Saviour to forgive him. Secondly, he recognizes his need for help. Christ and the Church become this source of strength and guidance. Just as a child falls many times when learning to walk, a Christian yields to temptation as he strives to walk the Christian way. He will sin even though he does not want to sin. The inspiration received from regular worship at church and in personal devo-

tions will help and encourage the Christian child. Thirdly, in this experience he comes to know the Father well, for he leans heavily upon Him. He comes to know God as One who really loves him and understands him. Gradually he learns that God is absolutely adequate for every need he has.

No one is saved by his good works or good deeds, no matter how good they might be. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8, 9). Our salvation is a free gift. No man earns it. Christ died that we might be saved from our sins and have the promise of eternal life. Grace is "unearned love" or a "favor of God." When we first receive or accept this gift, we are a child of God. It is expected that we will not stay in these early, childish stages for long.

Identified with Christ

As one develops in the Christian life, he wants to be identified with Christ. The shame or embarrassment that might have been present at first have disappeared. As in physical maturing there is the stage of adolescence or the state of growing, so there is this period of growing, understanding, and learning in the maturing Christian life.

Both *Law* and *Love* have become important members or elements of this growing process. First, the Christian learns God's laws, commands, promises, and desires. His Christian training provides him with the knowledge of right and wrong. The basic Ten Commandments of the Old Testament take on importance. He recognizes the punishment involved in breaking one of these laws. Jesus recommended the keeping of these in the New Testament. (*Read Matthew 19:16-21.*) Because of the Christian's desire to obey God's laws, he strives to incorporate these into his living.

Then he becomes aware of the "first and great commandment" (Matthew 22:38). Matthew 22:36-39 says, "Master,

| Suggested Program |
|---|
| Pre-Prayer Service |
| Prelude |
| Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1 |
| Hymns: <i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; Have Thine Own Way, Lord</i> |
| Invocation |
| Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 3:1-9 |
| Prayer (Silent prayer, concluded with a prayer by the leader or another young person) |
| Hymn: <i>He Leadeth Me</i> |
| Announcements |
| Offertory |
| Special Music |
| Topic Presentation |
| Closing Hymn: <i>I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go</i> |
| Mizpah Benediction |

which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Then because of his sheer love, the Christian wants to please God. He wants to be identified with Christ. He strives to keep God's laws and follow Christ's teachings because he loves and wants to please and satisfy.

"Be Ye Separate"

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (II Corinthians 6:17). When one does wrong, he places himself in such a position that he can expect God's wrath. There is no wrath of God except the reaction of His holiness, justice, and truth against sin. God's wrath

(Continued on next page)

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should not be thought of in terms of sinful man's wrath. It is not an emotional outburst. God's holiness cannot tolerate sin. There are two steps to take. Either sin and place yourself under God's wrath, or follow Christ and place yourself under God's blessing. When we strive to be righteous through Christ, we place ourselves in such a position that we can expect God's blessing upon us.

All of us sin. No one is fully righteous but Christ Himself. We must strive for this righteousness, however. When one accepts and receives Christ as his personal Saviour, it means a new relationship with God. It means an ever growing and developing experience with Him; it means the beginning of spiritual life and maturity. As we grow in the Christian life, the Spirit of God will speak to us about habits or attitudes that we have that are not wholesome to our Christian lives and witness. We begin to think about these things. We begin to wonder if we should practice a certain habit or retain a certain attitude. This is God's Spirit speaking to our hearts and consciences. Whenever the Spirit begins to speak to us concerning something in our lives, He will also give us the grace to rid it from our lives.

An experience of coming to know Christ as one's personal Saviour results in a changed life. A Christian must be different. He cannot remain the same. The love of Christ must radiate from his life. His practices and habits cannot remain exactly as before.

"Present Your Bodies"

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1). Note that presenting our bodies is but our "reasonable" service. It is the expected act of the Christian. This is the picture of the adult—the fully grown Christian.

It is not necessary for us to pray, "Lord, send us the Holy Spirit." He is already constantly with us if we are but willing to receive Him. We ought to pray, "Lord, possess more of me by the Holy Spirit." We are to allow Him to possess us completely and to lay claim to our entire hearts, bodies, minds, and souls.

When this "possession" is completed, there is a new peace. Personal lives and desires are no longer at war with God. There is a new contentment that comes to the heart and life of the completely submitted Christian life. There is a wholeness never experienced before. Man's spirit is united with God's Spirit.

This is as man was intended to be.

It is not sufficient nor expected that one will merely accept Christ as his personal Saviour and then sit back and reap the benefits. Although an incomplete study of the Scriptures might direct us to think this is all that is required, it is not the complete natural response. Because of one's love for Christ, there will be a deep desire to serve and follow Him. There will be a natural concern to tell others about the rich and exciting happenings we experience. A strong yearning to work for Christ and His Church will capture our imagination.

Application to Daily Life

Growth takes place along the lines of expression. It is by expression (not impression or repression) that we develop our powers and grow a personality. Our talents and habits are preserved by use. We maintain the ability to walk and strengthen our habits of walking by walking.

This also applies to the operations of the soul or spirit as well as to those of the body and the mind. To keep from developing an angry manner, we must give anger no place in daily practice. In order to form a kind disposition, we must engage in kind acts. The direction of our growth is a simple matter. Practice what should be habitual, and do not practice what should not be habitual. We can grow in any direction we desire by observing these principles without failure.

What does this say to you and your life?

Questions to Think About

1. Explain the meaning of *grace*, God's grace.
2. For what purpose or purposes does Christ save us?
3. What did our salvation cost?
4. Will good works provide us a better heavenly home?
5. How can we be identified with Christ?
6. What is the great commandment? Where is it found in the Bible?
7. Should a Christian act any different than a non-Christian? If so, in what ways?
8. How can we be assured of receiving God's blessing?
9. What is our conscience? Is it a good guide to follow?
10. What is the most important thing we can do for Christ? (For answer, refer to Romans 12:1, which is the first verse of what is called the *Christian Endeavor chapter by many*.)

Reminders to Committees

• **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Be sure to continue to emphasize interest and attendance at the International Christian Endeavor Convention in Dallas, Texas, July 6-10, 1965. One or two delegates from every society should be sent to this great convention.

• **DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE:** Begin making plans for the summer program. Strive to hold the interest of the young people throughout the summer, though perhaps not meeting as frequently. This is a good time to use outside speakers and hold meetings at the lakeside, on the church lawn, or in yards of members. Use the summer; don't omit it.

• **LOOKOUT COMMITTEE:** Avoid a letdown following Easter. Contact each absentee. Let him know he is missed. Help any new church members that might have been received in this season to feel they are an important part of the church.

• **MISSIONARY COMMITTEE:** Do you have regular and systematic contact with the missionaries your church helps support? Personal letters from them are an inspiration to young people.

• **SOCIAL COMMITTEE:** In addition to entertaining yourselves, remember those less fortunate, such as the old in nursing homes or the young in children's homes.

• **CHURCH ACTIVITY COMMITTEE:** Are there springtime jobs that young people could help do in the church building and on the church grounds? Seek your pastor's suggestions.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| M. Apr. 26 | First Things First | I Peter 2:1-8 |
| T. Apr. 27 | Addition for Completion | II Peter 1:3-11 |
| W. Apr. 28 | Right Is Might | Psalm 92:12-15 |
| T. Apr. 29 | Avoiding Wickedness | Proverbs 4:10-19 |
| F. Apr. 30 | Giving up Childishness | I Corinthians 13:8-13 |
| S. May 1 | Spiritual Nourishment | I Timothy 4:6-10 |
| Sun. May 2—Topic: | Here's How | I Corinthians 3:1-9 |

Comments by Pearl F. Reed, director of Christian Endeavor and church secretary of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topic 1 in a Unit: Establishing a Christian Home

A Real Mom

(Mother's Day)

Exodus 2:1-10

For the Leader

In this evening's meeting we want to find out what the Bible has to say about mothers and about children and to see how this applies to our lives today. First we will read several examples from the Bible which show some of the qualities a mother should have. All of these may be presented by one person, or each may be presented separately. If you have a chalkboard in your room, make a list, as each example is given, of the qualities you find in the mothers mentioned. Then this list is a starter for your discussion of "A Real Mom: Today."

Next we will see what the Bible has to say to children concerning their relationship to their parents, and we will notice especially the way Jesus Christ treated his mother, Mary.

The most important part of the meeting is "Appreciating Mom: Today." No one can ever do enough to show his appreciation to his mother, but use this time to discover as many ways as you can think of. This will lead into a devotional closing period, with the solo and silent prayers, which can be directed to thankfulness for our mothers and requests for strength and understanding in showing our appreciation to them.

Since it is Mother's Day, it would be appropriate to invite the mothers of the members of your group to the meeting. Written invitations would help make it a special occasion for both your mothers and you. This would be additional incentive to have a well-prepared program.

Your role as leader of the meeting will be to present a brief outline of the program as the "Topic Introduction" and to moderate the group discussions.

A Real Mom: In the Bible

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL

(read Genesis 21:1-21)

The story of Hagar and Ishmael is the unhappy story of a mother and child that were forced to leave their home. Sarah became very jealous of Hagar and Ishmael after Isaac was born. Therefore she asked Abraham, her husband, to send them away. This he did reluctantly, and only after prayer to God.

Soon Hagar's supply of bread and water ran out. She put her son Ishmael

in the shade of a shrub and prayed to God that he would not die. Her prayer was answered when God supplied a well full of water from which they could drink.

Hagar was a good mother, because she made the best she could out of a poor situation. They had been sent into the wilderness with very little to sustain them, but she made use of what she had for as long as it lasted.

But most important of all, Hagar was a good mother because she asked God's help in providing for her child. God is the ultimate source of all life, and the wise mother recognizes this and acknowledges her need, and her child's need, of Him. Hagar prayed for God to protect the life of her son. There is no more fitting prayer for any mother than one such as this, which acknowledges God's power over life and death, and asks His care over His children.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: Exodus 20:12

Song Service: *Praise Him! Praise Him!; Give of Your Best to the Master; Dear Lord and Father of Mankind; In My Heart There Rings a Melody*

Announcements and Offering

Prayer (to be sung by all): *An Evening Prayer*

Topic Introduction by the Leader

A Real Mom: In the Bible

A Real Mom: Today

Appreciating Mom: In the Bible

Appreciating Mom: Today

Vocal Solo (have a member of your group or someone else in your church to close the meeting by singing a Mother's Day song)

Silent Prayers

Benediction



JOCHEBED AND MOSES
(read Exodus 2:1-10)

The story of Moses and his mother (who is identified as Jochebed in another Scripture passage) is an exciting one. Moses' parents refused to submit to the decree of the Pharaoh that all the male Hebrew babies were to be killed. So Jochebed first hid Moses for three months. Then, when this was no longer safe, she made an ark and floated him on the river near where Pharaoh's daughter came to bathe. The princess found the baby boy and had compassion on him. Moses' sister, Miriam, who had been watching the whole proceedings, then approached the princess and offered to find a Hebrew woman to take care of the baby until he grew older. The princess agreed, and Miriam was able to return Moses to his mother, who reared him until he was older.

Jochebed was a good mother because she was more concerned for her child's safety than for her own. She took a great risk by hiding the baby for three months; discovery would probably have meant death for her as well as for the baby. When she could no longer hide him safely, she devised a plan whereby she was able to continue rearing him as her own son while he was young. She was a good mother, because she was first and foremost concerned for her son's safety.

HANNAH AND SAMUEL
(read 1 Samuel 1:9-28)

Hannah wanted a child so much that she made a promise to God. She prom-

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ised Him that if she could have a male child she would give him to Lord for His use. God allowed Hannah to have a baby boy, and just as she had promised she left Samuel in the care of Eli the priest so that he would always live in service to God.

Hannah realized that her child was a gift from God. She acknowledged this by giving her child to Eli for service to God. A wise and good mother is thankful to God for the gift of a child and directs him toward service to God.

THE DISPUTED CHILD (read I Kings 3:16-28)

This is one of the most interesting stories in the Old Testament and a wonderful example of the wisdom of Solomon. He realized that the real mother of a child would be willing to do anything to save its life. So when two women came to him, each claiming to be the mother of a baby, he suggested cutting the baby in two. He knew the woman who agreed couldn't be the real mother. The real mother loved the baby and was willing to let the other woman have it, rather than have it be killed.

A good mother will be willing to suffer herself, rather than have her child come to harm. The child's welfare comes first.

EUNICE AND TIMOTHY (read II Timothy 1:1-7)

Paul refers not only to Timothy's mother, Eunice, but also to his grandmother, Lois, as possessing strong faith. Paul realized that this was one reason why Timothy could be a strong leader of the early church. He had been reared in an atmosphere of faith and had been taught its importance by his mother.

A good and wise mother knows the importance of spiritual training. She will be just as concerned with a child's spiritual welfare as she is with his physical welfare.

A Real Mom: Today

We have now seen several examples of good mothers in the Bible. We have noticed the following attributes of a good mother; she recognizes her need for God's help in caring for her child (Hagar); her first concern is for her child's welfare (Jochebed and the mother of the disputed child); she realizes that her child is a gift from God, and directs him toward a life of service for and faith in God (Hannah and Eunice).

Now we want to list important qualities, in addition to these, that we look for in a mother today. (*Perhaps you could go around the room and have each*

person name one important thing his mother does for him. In fact, you should be able to go around the room several times. Include all the things you can think of, from spiritual things such as love, to very practical things such as cooking and ironing. Don't stop until your chalkboard is full, and then you will have only begun to name all the possibilities.)

Appreciating Mom: In the Bible

The Bible contains many words of instruction for children in regard to their relationship to their parents. Our call to worship this evening was one of the Ten Commandments which tells us to "Honor thy father and thy mother . . ." (Exodus 20:12a). This command is repeated in the New Testament in Ephesians 6:1 and Colossians 3:20, where the verb used is "obey" rather than "honor." Both actions are essential to the good child. We must obey our parents' wishes, and we must honor and respect them as people to whom we look for guidance.

Proverbs 1:8 and 19:26,27 give further instruction that children must respect the direction of their parents. I Timothy 5:4 is directed to the children of widows, but it is good advice to all children: that we must show piety, or kindness, first at home.

JESUS AND MARY

We can learn much about how to treat our parents by observing how Christ treated His mother, Mary, while He lived on earth. Luke 2:52 tells us that Jesus was "subject unto them," that is, He submitted Himself to Mary and Joseph for their guidance and direction when He was in His youth. The following verse tells us that during this time He grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with both God and men. Certainly all of us must first be subject unto our parents if we hope to grow in the areas in which Christ grew.

We also know of Jesus' concern for His mother at the time of His death on the cross. At that time He looked down from the cross and saw her standing with John, the beloved apostle. John 19:25-27 tells us that Christ committed Mary to John's care as He was about to die. And so one of Christ's last thoughts before His death was for the care of His mother.

Appreciating Mom: Today

We have read instruction from the Bible concerning our relationship to our parents, and we have seen how Jesus treated His mother, Mary. We know

that we must honor and respect our mothers as well as obey their wishes. We must also exercise kindness in our dealings with them. If we hope to grow up properly we must be subject unto our parents. Finally we must always be concerned for their welfare, just as they are for ours.

Now we want to think of specific ways that we can show our appreciation to our parents today. (*Again, go around the room and have each person name some way in which he can be a better young man or young woman at home and in his relationships with his parents. Again, include everything you can think of, from helping with the dinner dishes to trying harder to show them our love and affection. And again, the list of possibilities is unending.*)

Closing Moments

Make the vocal solo, silent prayers, and benediction a devotional period to close the meeting. Suggest that the silent prayers be prayers for guidance from God in our efforts to be better sons and daughters and to show our appreciation continually for our parents and all that they do for us.

Meeting Ideas

1. If you decide to invite your mothers to the meeting, you could have mimeographed programs giving the parts of the meeting, etc. Include a few blank pages at the end, and sometime in the evening let each member use these pages in his mother's program to list the ten things for which he is most thankful to his mother. Then she will have this to keep as a memoir of the day.

2. As an alternative meeting, you could have a guest speaker talk about the importance of honoring mothers. Or perhaps have a mother and son or daughter speak about the relation each should have to the other.

3. Another alternative would be to talk about some of the more recent mothers that have been well known or influential upon their children. Examples would be the mothers of Abraham Lincoln or John Glenn.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | | |
|----------|---|--|-------------------|
| M. May | 3 | A Mother Dedicates Her Child | I Samuel 1:21-28 |
| T. May | 4 | Desiring Health | Matthew 15:21-28 |
| W. May | 5 | Jesus' Care for His Mother | John 19:25-27 |
| T. May | 6 | Parental Duty to Teach | Deuteronomy 6:1-9 |
| F. May | 7 | The Ideal Mother | Titus 2:1-8 |
| S. May | 8 | Faithful Mothers | II Timothy 1:1-7 |
| Sun. May | 9 | Topic: A Real Mom Exodus 2:1-10 (Mother's Day) | |

Comments by Stephen Jacoby, a student at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Topic 2 in a Unit: Establishing a Christian Home

Not for Sale

I Timothy 5:1-4,8; II Timothy 1:5-7

For the Leader

Tonight we hope to point out the difference between a house and a home. Then we want to decide what some of the essential elements of a good home are, and then encourage all our members to do everything they can to make their own homes more ideal. The outline above is merely a suggestion of how you can use the material presented below. You may use whatever order you like to make the meeting most effective for your particular group.

Be sure you have adequately prepared for the meeting by thinking about the topic and coming to some decisions on your own about the qualities of an ideal home, and especially by asking God's help, through prayer, as you lead your group in this meeting.

Publicity

You can begin to point out the important differences between a house and home even in your publicity. Find advertisements for houses in the newspapers which include pictures. Then find pictures in magazines that depict family life and scenes at home. Then you can use these two sets of pictures to make contrasting posters. One set can be labeled "House for Sale," while the other, with the pictures of home life, can be labeled "Not for Sale." Place these where they will be seen by your age group, of course including the time and place of the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, either the week before or at an earlier service at your church, ask each person to cut an advertisement for a house out of the newspaper or a magazine. Have them bring these to the meeting, to be used as explained below.

What's Most Valuable In Your Home?

At the very beginning of the meeting provide each member with a small piece of paper and a pencil. Ask all to write



on the paper the most valuable thing they have in their home. Give no further directions than this, except perhaps to mention that no one else will read their papers, so they need not worry about the reactions of anyone else to what they write. After they have done this, have them put the paper aside and not look at it again until later in the meeting.

At the very end of the meeting have the members present look again at the papers they wrote at the beginning of the meeting. Ask them if they still think what they wrote is the most valuable thing in their home. Perhaps some of them were too hasty when they wrote earlier. Perhaps some of them were thinking of houses instead of homes.

Houses for Sale

Each person present has been asked to bring an advertisement for a house for sale. Have the ad section of a newspaper at the meeting for those who may not have heard the earlier announcement, so they can find one before the meeting begins.

Have each member read his advertisement to the group. If you call the roll at your meetings, each person could answer in this way. Especially notice what seems to be valuable to people when they are selling a house. What things do they emphasize in the advertisements they print? What seems to be valuable to an owner of a house?

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: Proverbs 15:16-20

Opening Hymn: *We're Marching to Zion*

What's Most Valuable in Your Home? (see this section below)

Houses for Sale

Song Service: *More Like the Master; In the Service of the King; Lord, I Want to Be a Christian; Let the Beauty of Jesus*

Scripture Reading: I Timothy 5:1-4,8; II Timothy 1:5-7

House versus Home (by the Leader)

Case Studies on the Prodigal Son
Homes: Not for Sale

What's Most Valuable in Your Home? (see this section below)

Prayer Hymn: *Whisper a Prayer*

Sentence Prayers

Benediction

Home versus House

Often we use the terms "home" and "house" almost interchangeably, when they really are not synonymous terms. The dictionary (*Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary*, 1956) defines a house, among other things, as "a structure for human habitation." On the other hand, the definition of a home includes the phrase, "the abiding place of the affections." This is the key to the difference. A house is a place to live. A home is more than that; it is the affections, relationships, and emotions that exist between the people living in the house.

Since the terms are different, we must realize that homes and houses can exist independently. There can be a home wherever there are affections between people, especially members of a family. On the other hand, there can easily be a house without a home inside it, even though it may have a family living there. It depends on the relationship of the members of the family. Likewise, beautiful homes can exist in shabby houses, while beautiful houses can be void of homes.

We have already talked about houses when we read our newspaper advertisements. Now we want to name some of

(Continued on next page)

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the valuable assets of a home. (At this point encourage the members present to think of important qualities in the home. Make a list on the chalkboard. Such things as love, kindness, thoughtfulness, etc. are the right things to list.)

Case Studies on the Prodigal Son

For this part of the meeting the members present will do a "case study" of the three main characters in the story of the Prodigal Son. First, have the story read to the entire group. It is found in Luke 15:11-32. Mention that this is a parable that was told by Christ.

Next divide the people present into three groups. Each of the groups will take one of the characters in the story. In order to explain what the groups are expected to do, compare them to a modern family counselor or minister who has been asked to help solve a problem that exists in a home. In our case, we first have a rebellious son who leaves home and lives riotously. Finally he realizes his mistake and returns home, greatly ashamed, and not even expecting forgiveness. His father welcomes him home as one who was lost and has been found. But his older brother resents the reception his father has given to the younger brother.

This is the situation. It includes both good and bad; sometimes a character may do something which is a great help to the family in these problems, and he deserves commendation; at other times, a character may do something which causes a bad problem in the family. In the latter case, a solution needs to be found. Each group's job is to analyze the character they are studying and define his role in the home life. They should decide what part their character played in the various situations which happen to the family, whether it is good or bad, and what their character could do to improve the situation.

Group I—the Younger Son

First read again the verses which apply to your character; these are Luke 15:11-21.

What do you think might have caused the younger son to want to leave home early with his inheritance? Is this an unusual desire? Do young people today ever want to leave home before they are really old enough? When is a son or daughter old enough to leave his family and be "on his own"? What exactly does it mean to be "on your own"?

Judging by his actions, do you think the younger son was old enough to leave home? Did he have enough maturity to take care of himself and behave as an adult?

Verse 17 contains a key statement: "He came to himself." What do you think that these words mean? What caused the younger son to "come to himself" and decide to return home? Do you think he expected too much of his father in deciding to ask him if he could work as a servant?

When he realized he had made a mistake, did he do the best thing in deciding to return home? Is this the best course of action for young people who make similar mistakes today?

What was the overall contribution of the younger son to this home?

The word "prodigal" means "reckless" or "extravagant." It is used as a title for this parable because of the son's actions after he left home. But this is only part of the story. Judging from his later actions, what other title could we give the story?

Group II—the Older Son

First read again the verses which apply to your character; these are Luke 15:25-32.

Up until the incident we have just read, do you think the older son was a good son? Why do you think he acted as he did in this story?

What seems to be the older son's biggest concern? Even if he had a legitimate reason to be angry, do you think he acted rightly in staying away from the festivities? Do you think his father's words will have an effect on him? From what we are told about his personality and his earlier life, what do you think will be his actions or attitudes now that his younger brother has returned?

This story has been named after the younger son. How would you title it if you wanted to make the older son the central character?

Group III—the Father

First read again the verses which apply to your character; these are Luke 15:12,20-24,28-32.

Do you think the father did the right thing in giving the younger son his share of the inheritance and allowing him to leave home and go out into the world?

What was the father's attitude when his son returned? Do you think he was expecting his son to return? Does it

seem as if the father forgave his son completely? Do you think the son should have been scolded or punished?

Do you think the father was unfair to the older son? Do you think he gave the older son a sufficient explanation for his actions regarding the younger son?

Do you feel like the father did the best thing for his home?

If you were naming this story with the father as the central character, what would you name it?

Conclusion

After the groups have had 15 or 20 minutes to study their characters, call the complete group together again. Have each group report on their character. Decide when and how each character contributed toward making his home a good one, and decide when he acted in a way that was harmful to the home.

Homes: Not for Sale

Now that we have differentiated between a house and a home, have listed some of the necessary attributes of a good home, and have studied the individuals in one home situation, imagine that you are going to sell an ideal home. Recall the advertisements that you read at the beginning of the meeting. Draw up an imaginary advertisement for a home for sale. What are some of the things you could especially advertise as being most valuable in the home?

But the point of tonight's meeting, as the topic suggests, is that a home is not for sale. The qualities that make up a good home are more valuable than anything that is measured in money. A home can never be bought or sold. It is the result of the lives of every member of it, and the kind of home it is is determined by how much each member contributes to it. Is each of you contributing all you can to make your home a beautiful, Christian home?

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| M. May 10 | Some Happy Home Qualities | Proverbs 15:16-20 |
| T. May 11 | Home Friendships Valuable | Proverbs 27:8-12 |
| W. May 12 | A Family Circle Broken | Luke 15:11-19 |
| T. May 13 | A Family Reunited | Luke 15:20-23 |
| F. May 14 | A Changed Home | Acts 16:25-34 |
| S. May 15 | Solid Foundations | Matthew 7:24-27 |
| Sun. May 16 | Topic: Not for Sale I Timothy 5:1-4,8; II Timothy 1:5-7 | |

Comments by Stephen Jacoby, a student at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topic 1 in a Unit: Christian Witness in All Vocations

Start Talking for Christ

Matthew 28:7-10



Instructions to Leader

Read the entire program carefully. The purpose of the topic is to show that witnessing is an essential practice in the daily life of all Christian Endeavorers. The strength of your group is determined by its active witness before the other youth of your area. Strive to make this program one that will inspire your group to daily positive witnessing.

The skit involves five characters, plus a "Voice" which may be heard from the back of the group, or from off-stage, if your meeting room is so equipped. The action concerns two Junior High Christian Endeavor officers who are discussing the lack of witnessing that is done by their group. Bill feels they are too young to speak for Christ, and after Tom leaves he falls asleep, or begins to daydream of famous youth who have contributed much to history.

Use your imagination to set up any stage props you need. Parts should be given out at least a week in advance. Publicize the topic through posters, phone calls, and verbal announcements. Pray much for your program. Use your own ideas to bring it to life for your friends in a way that will be pleasing to Christ. If you wish to use costumes consult a book on historical costumes or see *Clothing or Costume* in an encyclopedia. If used, they should be simple, yet impressive.

Skit

TOM: Hi, Bill. Glad I found you. I need to talk with you.

BILL: Sure. What's up?

TOM: This morning in devotions I found a passage that's really been nagging at me today. It's as if God is really trying to tell me something. Here it is . . . II Timothy 1:8,9 (*Read slowly.*) You know, this was Paul's last letter before his death. The whole letter contains his most urgent guidance and advice to his young friend Timothy. This close to death Paul was still trying to accomplish as much for Christ as possible.

BILL: What else does he tell him?

TOM: Mainly to retain his beliefs in spite of all opposition, and continually to preach the Word! And Paul wrote this from prison and he was facing death because he dared to preach Christ!

BILL: He surely went through a lot.

We rarely even mention Christ to people around us.

TOM: Exactly. I mean, that's what I'm getting at. Here in verse eight Paul tells him not to be ashamed of the testimony, for "He has called us according to His purpose." Sometimes I get embarrassed when I'm around non-Christians. I want to tell them about Christ, but I just can't.

BILL: Yeah, I know what you mean, Tom. I get embarrassed too, but I'm not really ashamed.

TOM: But we must be, or we'd be more concerned for our friends.

BILL: Yes, and verse seven says God has given a spirit of power, not of fear. Remember our Scripture for today from Matthew 28? The first reaction to the resurrection was to tell others about God's love and power . . . but, Tom, maybe it's not really our job. The disciples were adults. I think it's the job of people like the preacher. Besides, why do we have to say anything particular? The kids know we're Christians.

TOM: Well, please pray about it, okay? I'll talk to you tomorrow.

Bill returns to studying. Shortly after picking up his book his head begins to nod, and soon he is asleep.

VOICE: Tom. Tom. Do you recognize this young man? (*A boy enters the stage*)

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Opening Hymn: *He Lives*

Prayer

Hymns: *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations; Saved to Tell Others*

Call to Prayer: Psalm 25:4,5

Sentence Prayers

Scripture Reading Matthew 28:7-10

Presentation of Topic

Skit

Speaker #1

Speaker #2

Conclusion (by Leader)

Friendship Circle and Benediction

area. He is blind and sits down on a chair, bent over a piece of paper with a knitting needle, or anything that looks like a stylus, in his hand. During the reading of the Voice he punches holes in the paper, turning it over and trying to feel the impressions on the other side occasionally.) It is the early 1800's. The room is dark and still, and Louis is the only boy awake. Slowly and deliberately he punches tiny holes across his paper with a stylus. Everyone at the institute had been telling him he was wasting his time. It is impossible, they told him, to devise a truly effective method of reading and writing for the blind. But this twelve-year-old youngster, Louis Braille, could not reconcile himself to the fact that, though he was blind, he would be forever cut off from the vast store of human knowledge. Between the ages of twelve and fifteen, for the first time in history, Louis Braille created a method by which all the world's literature could be placed at the fingertips of the blind. His simple "Braille system" is still used today, virtually unchanged. This young boy opened the door of knowledge for all who could not see. (*Boy exits.*)

Another boy comes to the stage area now, sits at a desk, and begins writing. Occasionally he looks up, deep in thought.

VOICE: It is the 1500's. Young Galileo is a student in Italy. But he is dissatisfied. For twenty centuries the teachings of Aristotle had been taught throughout the schools of Europe. His authority was accepted without a question. Whenever Galileo questioned his theories, he was told, "Magister dixit" (the Master said it). Who are you to question the Master?

Galileo found it hard to accept Aristotle's theory of motion and to believe that the earth was the center of the universe. He began making his own experiments, sitting up late at night. One particular experiment with a simple swinging pendulum became a scientific landmark. To begin with, he proved Aristotle's theory wrong and revolutionized the

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study of motion. Eventually he laid the foundation of the modern science of dynamics, the branch of physics dealing with motion and force. All this came from a teen-age student in Pisa, Italy. (Boy exits.)

VOICE: And what about our Bible, Bill? Think of Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, had besieged and captured the city of Jerusalem. He commanded that some boys of Israel be brought to him—"youths without blemish, handsome and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding, learning" (Daniel 1:4, Revised Standard Version). Daniel met the requirements and came to live in the palace. What a witness he was to God's love! His testimony was so great that even the heathen Nebuchadnezzar recognized the God that Daniel knew to be the "blessed Most High." During later years he interpreted dreams, withstood a den of lions, and became one of our most important prophets!

What about Naaman's servant girl? She had faith enough to tell the commander of the great Syrian army to see Elisha of Israel to be healed of his leprosy (II Kings 5). Then remember all the others? David, Rhoda, Timothy, Esther, Samuel, Gideon—and the Bible mentions so many more, Tom, youth who were not ashamed of their youth, but were examples to older believers.

Bill awakens, stretches, picks up his books, and leaves.

Speaker #1

Why should we start talking for Christ? Witnessing is a direct command of Christ. It was given to all Christians, regardless of age, occupation, or position in life. The overflowing joy that a Christian knows in his own heart must be expressed in order to be replenished by the Holy Spirit. Witness the overflowing of the Spirit of Christ from a Christian into the life of a non-Christian. It includes the living example in daily living, as well as the verbal witness. If Christ has done anything for us, it is only normal and natural that it is shown to others. We will want our friends to know the same joy and love that we feel.

It becomes a personal matter. Has Christ done anything for me? Couldn't He do the same for my friends? Don't I want them to know God as I know Him? (Have group give testimonies, stressing the particular things Christ has done for them the previous week. This may include help on tests, opportunities to witness blessings in Quiet Hour, etc.)

Speaker #2

Why don't Christians witness more? Fear perhaps is the strongest block, but read II Timothy 1:7. (Have group turn to it and read it together.) Christians do possess this power, whether they use it or not. To deny it, or refuse to use it, denies God's power and makes Him appear to be a weak, lying God.

Inconsistency in living is probably the biggest reason Christians don't witness more. They seem ashamed of their witness, not because of Christ, but because their own lives do not measure up to what is expected of a Christian. Since Christ cannot be seen in their lives, they are afraid of being called two-faced or hypocritical if they witness. A Christian is certainly watched by his friends. He needs to live a life that is without blame. But the essence of a Christian's life is that it is no longer his life, but Christ's life lived in and through him. This perfect life of Christ can be seen in the imperfect lives of Christians if we acknowledge all dependence on God. All of self is closed off, and only Christ shown.

Do we live what we believe? Can Christ be seen in us? Are we a joyful, triumphant witness for Christ, or does the least discouraging circumstance get us down? Christ should be the greatest force in our lives. A non-Christian has no hope outside this earthly life. He is easily discouraged, but a Christian has his eyes on Christ, the eternal unchanging One.

(Have the group discuss other reasons Christians do not witness, but close this discussion five minutes before the normal closing time. Try to bring out personal problems of witnessing and present a good, natural solution.)

Conclusion

It all comes to focus on the individual. Christ is calling each of us to a life in Him. Unless we are willing to reject all others—friends, popularity, boy friends, girl friends, even parents—we are not worthy to be called Christians. He gave us His all, and this is our mission, to give Him our all. As Hudson Taylor said, "He is Lord of all, or not Lord at all." This is the greatest miracle of the Christian faith, that God can so bestow His life on an individual that he can completely give himself to His Saviour. He loses his life in that of Christ, and the new life, whose source is Christ, can glorify Christ. We can live a life preaching Him, loving Him, serving Him, living Him, by His own power.

Additional Thoughts

One of the great problems of our day in reaching young people and non-Christians outside the church is the great barrier set between those of us who know Christ and those who are not Christians. One of the most embarrassing questions you can ask most Christians today, including Christian Endeavorers, is this: "When did you last have to your home a non-Christian friend, not for the purpose of preaching to them but for the purpose of building a bridge of friendship, that you might have the right to witness to them concerning your faith?"

We say we're going to take a world for Christ. How are we doing it? Not simply by attending conventions and conferences and crusades. We take a world for Christ as we go up to extend friendship to non-Christian people. You know, right back home where I live, on our street, there are four homes of people now out of thirteen that have been won to Christ through this ministry of friendship.

I believe with all my heart that the Saviour earned the right to witness to people. We talk about witnessing and we say, "Now, what do we mean by witnessing?" "Does this mean that every person we meet we must share with them our experience of Christ?" No, the first thing is to do what Jesus did—build a bridge of friendship.

... If you want to establish friendship with another person either as an individual or as a group:

1. Begin by seeing what is good in the other person. Most people start at the other end by seeing what is wrong with another person; Jesus started by always seeing the good.
2. Listen to what they are saying. So often we are eager to win people to Christ that we tell them what we know before we find out what their real need is.
3. Do things for them. There are a thousand different things. This opens a new world when you start doing things for people. Jesus said we are to love our neighbors as we love ourselves and the way to start to do this is by doing things for people. Do things with them—go to the ball game with them.

The prayer that is always upon my heart is this:

Lord lay some friend upon my heart
And love that friend through me;
And may I humbly do my part
To win that friend to Thee.

Excerpts from a message delivered by Rev. H. Norman Pell at the 1964 Christian Endeavor International Summer Assembly.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| M. May 17 | Watchman Never Silent | Isaiah 62:6-9 |
| T. May 18 | Tell It to Friends | Mark 5:14-20 |
| W. May 19 | Sharing at Church | Ephesians 5:15-20 |
| T. May 20 | Never Ashamed | II Timothy 1:8-14 |
| F. May 21 | Always Ready | I Peter 3:13-22 |
| S. May 22 | Early Church Witnesses | John 15:18-27 |
| Sun. May 23—Topic: | Start Talking for Christ | Matthew 28:7-10 |

Comments by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Hammers of Los Alamitos, California

Stay on the Beam

Galatians 5:16-25

Publicity

1. Make announcements in church papers about the special illustration announcing the topic *Stay on the Beam*.

2. Place a poster in the church foyer, depicting a boy or girl walking on a bright yellow beam. The beam may be slanted so that it will appear as originating on the earth and culminating in heaven. The poster may have the title "Are You On the Beam?" above and to the left of the figure. Below and to the right of the figure place a big black question mark. Use magazine cutouts for the figure and magazine or newspaper headlines for the script.

When we Christians realize how insignificant we are, how sinful we are, and how infinite and how holy God is, then we will be in a position to follow Christ in the way everlasting. What is *your* relationship to Christ?

First Report: (Scripture: Psalm 139)

The purpose of this report is to show that one's relationship to Christ is the crucial criterion for staying on the beam. Read the Scripture through at least three times.

Notice how the Psalmist, David, begins the Psalm, "O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me . . ."

Now notice the twenty-third verse which begins, "Search me, O God." Why would David have to say "search me" after he just said "Thou hast searched me"? Read again the Psalm and notice how David brings out the fact that God is omnipotent (all powerful), omniscient (all knowing), and omnipresent (everywhere). When David thus realizes the greatness of God, he at the same time recognizes his own insignificance, and thus he says, "Search me, O God, and know my heart . . . and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Second Report (Scripture: Galatians 5:16-25)

The purpose of this report is to show

that Christianity is not just a list of "don'ts," but rather, Christianity is a way of life—a way of living—for Christ is life! Read the Scripture through at least three times.

Notice the opening command "walk in the Spirit." To walk in the Spirit one must have a complete and unbroken fellowship with Christ. This fellowship is really a part of realizing one's relationship to Christ. Is *your* relationship to Christ one that earnestly seeks God's guidance through prayer and Bible study, or is it the kind of relationship that says with the lips, "Yes, I seek earnestly after God," and then with the mind and body goes out and sins against Him? Another and very important part of one's relationship is acknowledging one's sins and then going to God in prayer, asking forgiveness of them.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it . . . In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength . . . blessed are all they that wait for him" (Isaiah 30: 21a, 15, 18b).

Prayer

Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* or *Lead On, O King Eternal*

Offering: Special Music

Hymn: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* or *Rise Up, O Men of God*

Topic Presentation

Live Illustration

First Report

Second Report

Third Report

Sentence Prayers

Benediction: "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever" (Isaiah 32:17).



The Christian's life will be one that displays all the fruits of the Spirit listed in 5:22,23. These are virtues that the non-Christian world seeks but it cannot have, because it does not follow Him, who is the Prince of Peace, who is love, who is longsuffering and gentle. The non-Christian will be succumbing to the "don'ts" listed in 5:20,21, while the Christian, who is walking in the Spirit in the Christian way of life, is living victoriously free from these sins because of the influence of the Holy Spirit in his life.

Third Report (Scripture: Psalm 23)

The purpose of this report is to "sum up" what has gone before, and to challenge those who perhaps are not Christians to accept the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have seen tonight how one person's life was saved because he relied upon a voice, which he could not see, to give him directions. We have also heard that one of the most important parts of a Christian's life is his personal relationship to Jesus Christ, and how that only through prayer and Bible study is he able to continue following close by the side of Christ in a full and complete fellowship. It has also been pointed out that Christianity is a way of life, not just a list of "dos" and "don'ts."

Now that you have heard and seen these things concerning Christ, who do you think He is? In the twenty-third Psalm He is called our Shepherd. In John's Gospel He is again referred to as our Shepherd. Just what is a shepherd? In Christ's day, a shepherd was one who took care of sheep. He took them out to eat every day; he guarded them from the enemy at night; he sought after

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them when they became lost; he led them down the pathway—he was their lord and master.

Today Christ is all of these things and more. He is the Shepherd who takes care of His sheep. His sheep are all of those who have put their trust completely in Him. Jesus takes care of His sheep, for He promises that He will supply all of their needs according to His Father's riches in glory.

Christ as a Shepherd guards His sheep against the enemy, the devil. He will not let the devil put anything in their pathway that will cause them to yield to sin's temptation and fall. Even when we were lost in our sin our Shepherd sought us out. Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit He called us unto Himself that He might give us abundant life! Christ is leading us up the pathway to heaven. He is keeping us on the beam. As a good Shepherd He never drives His flock, but rather He gently leads them, trodding over every inch of ground before He allows His sheep to take a step.

He governs His sheep with grace, compassion and much longsuffering. He is their Lord and Master. Are you allowing Christ to be your Lord and Master and following Him? Are you allowing Christ to keep you on the beam by listening for His voice even though you may not be able to see the path ahead? Have you ever asked Christ into your life to be your Shepherd? What are you doing with Christ?

Instructions to the Leader

Begin each planning session with a prayer asking for God's guidance, help, and participation in the program. Preparation should begin two weeks in advance with the program chairman meeting with the two participants in the live illustration. The live illustration is simple, but it must be prayerfully presented to be effective.

The program chairman should appoint someone to be in charge of the church paper announcement and the poster in the church foyer.

Appoint one person in charge of obtaining an old Air Force or Navy officer's hat and if possible a military uniform jacket. If available get a set of headphones.

Appoint one person to make an airplane instrument panel. This can be a side of a large cardboard box with magazine cutouts of dials pasted on. An

old, shortened broom handle would make an excellent steering stick. A red light for the control panel could be a flashlight with a piece of red cellophane covering the lens. Someone behind the panel could turn it on at the appropriate time.

Practice the live illustration at least twice before the actual presentation. Assign the report topics well in advance. The remarks following the Scripture are for the use of the person giving the report. They are to be used as a guide for his own Bible study and not as the report itself.

Live Illustration

(Begin the live illustration in a darkened room. As the program chairman begins his narration a spotlight is shone on the pilot. He is seated in a chair in front of the instrument panel. Just a portion of his face is visible, but the whole instrument panel is visible.)

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: The night was cold, still, and dark. A heavy fog hung over a lonely airport . . . *(excitedly)* suddenly a pilot circling above the airport in a small plane noticed a red light appear on his instrument panel. *(Turn on flashlight.)* His radar instruments had failed! He had been relying on this equipment to help him land; now he was lost! Because of the fog he could not see; he became confused; there was panic in his voice as he called into his microphone for help! He did not want to be swallowed up and lost in the fog! Then the pilot heard a calm reassuring voice telling him—

PARTICIPANT #2 *(This person should speak firmly, almost in a monotone voice.)* Hi. I have you on my radar scope. You are three degrees off the beam—please bank to the right. There—you are on the beam now. You're doing fine!

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: Because the pilot has lost the use of his eyes he feels he is flying at a crazy angle and that he is going to crash. *(Almost shout the next line, while the pilot moves his mouth very excitedly as if he is doing the talking.)* Am I still on the beam? I'm flying at too much of an angle. I'll turn over and lose control—help!

PARTICIPANT #2: *(immediately on the word help)* You're doing real great! You're right on the beam—you'll be fine. Begin your descent now—slowly—*whoa!* That's too much of a descent, fella—bring her back up $\frac{1}{2}$ degree — there, you're on the beam again—that's fine! You're over the runway now, altitude forty feet—sit her down easy—there you're home safely now—right on the

beam. *(Spotlight on the pilot out. Spotlight the program chairman.)*

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: How often do we Christians find that everything we have relied on has failed, and that we have become confused, panicky, and desperate? What do we do when we find ourselves in such a situation? Do we allow ourselves to get off the beam and to be swallowed up by the confusing darkness of the world around us, or do we listen for that clear, calm, and reassuring word from our Lord saying "This is the way; walk ye in it"? After hearing His direction do we not believe Him and think that we are still losing control and turning over to crash as the pilot thought, or do we continue to listen to the Lord for His reassurance and direction knowing that "in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength"? Only by turning again and again to the Lord can we Christians continue in His will. Only by trusting completely in Christ are we able to realize the work of righteousness in our lives and the effect of righteousness, which is "quietness, peace, and assurance forever."

Another Program Idea

Secure a copy of the book *Why We Choose Christ* written by Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union. Select one or two of the inspiring sermons contained in the book, and relating to this subject, to be reviewed by two young people in your society. Bishop Meadows' book is available from the Publishing Department of the International Society for \$2.50.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| M. May 24 | Abiding in Christ | John 15:1-11 |
| T. May 25 | The Only Saviour | Acts 4:5-12 |
| W. May 26 | The Only Foundation | I Corinthians 3:10-15 |
| T. May 27 | Good Deeds Insufficient | Galatians 2:11-21 |
| F. May 28 | Captivated by the Cross | Galatians 5:1-12 |
| S. May 29 | Free to Love and Serve | Galatians 5:13-15 |
| Sun. May 30—Topic: | Stay on the Beam | Galatians 5:16-25 |

Comments by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Hammers of Los Alamitos, California

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from the new CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive orange and black krome-kote cover, contains 138 songs and hymns and 20 responsive Scripture readings for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216. Price: 60c each, \$6 per dozen, \$48 per hundred.

Topics

FOR SENIOR HIGHS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Topic 2 in a Unit: Love — Life's Dynamic Dimension

Love That's Living

Luke 10:25-37

Program Promotion

Make some posters using black and white newspaper photographs of special needs in your community. Try to find pictures of hospitals, neighborhood houses, the streets, playgrounds, and personal interest stories demonstrating human suffering or poverty. Arrange two or three pictures in artistic order and print in large letters with black India ink "What are you doing about this?" At the bottom of the poster extend an invitation to the meeting with place, date, and hour of the meeting.

Make special mention of the nature of the meeting in the Sunday church bulletin and youth newsletter. You might send mimeographed post cards to all active and associate members stressing the outreach nature of this program as well as its implications in the future activities of your society. Never forget to remind the society of the necessity of personal invitations to inactive members or new prospects.

Guidance for the Leader

You will have to start working on this program at least two weeks in advance if it is going to amount to more than an ordinary rehash of common problems in your community. Talk must be matched with action if it is not to be empty and futile. You may be able to inspire and activate your society in the area of local mission and citizenship if you bring into this meeting relevant facts and concrete ideas and then seek to do something about these needs.

Having a member who is interested in photography take some color slides or snapshots of local problems and institutions will make your topic come alive. You must also be conscious of the time required to have film processed. Include pictures of hospitals, neighborhood houses, orphanages, temporary children's shelters, rescue missions, jails, juvenile detention homes, and run-down neighborhoods. Show these pictures at the meeting with challenging comments and quotations from Scripture, such as Matthew 25:40 and I John 3:17,18.

Also try to get some literature and information about special or ongoing needs from directors to share with the buzz groups. Divide this material plus follow-up suggestions and the talks below among the appropriate buzz-group leaders in advance. After forming three buzz groups ask each group

to appoint a secretary to record conclusions and recommendations. When you reconvene ask each leader to report the conclusions and recommendations to the entire society. Collect these papers and share them after the meeting with the chairmen of your missionary and citizenship committees.

Some suggestions for follow-up activities of your society are: conduct a game night and hymn sing at a local neighborhood house; visit the children's ward of a hospital and conduct a brief service which includes a flannelgraph story, after which you may distribute small gifts; conduct an evangelistic service at a rescue mission; using names supplied by a service club such as the Elks or Rotary invite several crippled children to a party at your church; conduct a worship service and social hour at a juvenile detention home (be sure to bring portions of Scripture and Christian literature along to distribute to the young people living there); visit a nursing home and read Scripture and pray with the patients; clear an empty lot or field and help set up a playground for underprivileged children in your town or city; discover the needs of the poor, the sick, and the troubled in your church and try to minister to them on an individual basis. Be sure to share these suggestions with the buzz group leaders.

Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Hymn Sing: *More Like the Master,
In the Service of the King, I
Would Be True*

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Hymn: *Where Cross the Crowded
Ways*

Responsive Reading: Selection 19
in *Christian Endeavor Songs* (I
John 4:7-21)

Special Feature: Showing of color
slides or photographs of local
needs in your community with
challenging remarks

Leader's Introduction

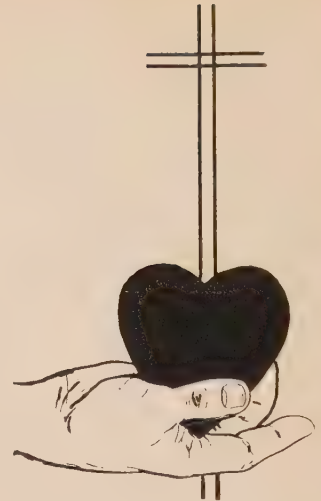
Buzz Groups

Reports and Recommendations

Conclusion

Sentence Prayers

Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us*



If only one idea catches on and bears fruit, your society will have gone a step further in extending the rule of Christ's Kingdom in the lives of others.

Leader's Talk

Someone has remarked, "Love is something you *do*!" All of our discussion about the true meaning of Christian love will amount to nothing if we don't take it seriously enough to do something about it. The most distinctive mark of the Christian way of life down through the centuries has been the quality and power of Christian love for one another and for all men. Christian love is the reason for happy and upright families; it is the foundation of free government and righteous laws; it is the basis of our best institutions, such as hospitals, orphanages, and public education. It is because Christ's love has dwelt in the hearts of his people from the first days of the Church that courageous men and women have helped the oppressed, healed the afflicted, and spread the Gospel into all corners of the world. Christian love is the explanation for the existence of medical colonies for lepers, for rescue mission work among the fallen, for missionary and educational work among the heathen and the ignorant. This is not mere humanism or humanitarianism. It is God's redeeming and reconciling love in action: saving men's souls and delivering their bodies.

And the task is not finished. We have not even made a sizable dent or lasting impression on the world scene. Christianity is threatened on all sides: by materialism, secularism, atheism, communism, the resurgence of pagan religions. More than ever, therefore, our words must be matched by our deeds. There are no human bars that can hold

(Continued on next page)

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out Christian love. Christ will enter into the hearts of others when they least suspect it by the power of our loving service. What are we going to do about the needs around us?

Talks by the Buzz Group Leaders

NOTE: Each buzz group should read Matthew 25:31-46. Have enough Bibles present so that each person may examine this passage carefully.

I Was Hungry

Poverty is one of the most depressing and miserable plights that human beings can experience. While our Lord said, "Blessed are you poor" (Luke 6:20), He did not mean us to ignore and forget the poor and the downtrodden. He did not encourage deprivation in any way. Rather, our Lord's life and teachings demonstrate and stress charity (agape), mercy, and generosity. Voluntarily sharing whatever we have with those who have little or nothing is an evidence of the stewardship of life and an expression of love. What our Lord really described was poverty of spirit (see Matthew 5:3). He said in effect that those who acknowledge their sin and lost condition and realize their need of God's grace and salvation will surely be blessed by Him, whatever their station in life might be. He directed these statements, however, primarily to the people of the land who were spurned and rejected by the privileged and proud religionists. His blessings were for *all* in need, and He sent forth His apostles with the injunction: "Freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8).

And what our Lord meant when He said, "I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me . . ." (Matthew 25:35, Revised Standard Version), is that not only does He identify Himself and sympathize with those in need, but He also was poor and hungry and a wanderer.

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the Christian's responsibility to those who are destitute? How far should he go in aiding people who are impoverished?
2. How should a person seeking to serve those in need conduct himself? See Matthew 6:2-4.
3. What are some needs within the life of our church and in our community that we may help meet? How may we go about this?

I Was Sick

The problem of pain and illness is probably man's closest plight. His life seems to move and decline toward ill-

ness. Why human beings should suffer pain will always contain an element of mystery about it. We know from Scripture that sin against God and alienation from His fellowship are at the root of pain and suffering and death. Yet even in this problem, as in poverty, God is sensitive to and concerned for man in his physical needs. God created the whole man. The whole man must be redeemed, restored, and revived.

Physical suffering must not be seen automatically as a judgment for sin, although God may send this to terminate a converted person's wickedness and convict him of sin. It may simply be a means God used to accomplish His purposes and glorify His name in the lives of His children, or it may perhaps be an act of discipline in the life of a redeemed individual who has gone astray. We may even be called upon to suffer for our Christian testimony.

In any case, God offers to all men the comfort of His Spirit and the Christian hope of eternal life and ultimate victory. Remember, at the center of world history there is a Cross. The Son of God suffered and bore the tragedy of pain and death on our behalf. Surely we cannot be defeated by man's worse enemy which is death if He is our Saviour and Lord.

Therefore, because He loves us and cares for us we ought to love others and care for them. As His Body on earth we must now be His hands of healing and arms of compassion, for He would still take our infirmities and bear our disease (Matthew 8:17).

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the Christian understanding of the reasons for pain and illness? What is the Christian answer to suffering?
2. How may we help those who are sick? In what ways may we minister physically and spiritually to those who suffer?
3. List some concrete suggestions and plans for our society to express the love of Christ to those in hospitals or shut-ins at home with illness.

I Was in Prison

We do not often think of those in prison or detention homes as having a special need for God's love. As a matter of fact we do not often think of them at all. Perhaps we are a bit self-righteous and punitive at this point: "After all, are they not getting what they earned?" "Do they not deserve to be put away from society and human life which they have marred and ruined?" Yet these were the people our Lord was most concerned to reach and to rescue. He came for the thieves and the murderers and the harlots. He was and is the friend of sinners without equal. He came to call sinners to repentance and He proclaimed,

"The Son of Man is come to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). This then must be our primary task, for we ourselves are sinners. We too have the same sin and guilt and need the same grace and forgiveness that others need. But for the grace of God we would be in prison or on Skid Row.

And do not forget that it is "while we were helpless," "while we were yet sinners," "while we were enemies" of God that Christ died for us and for all men. The Bible tells us that He was made to be sin for us! We must therefore proclaim release to all men, and especially to those who are considered to be the worst.

What the fallen need most of all is to be reconciled to God and renewed in His image. Sociologists and psychologists speak only of restoration to society and rehabilitation of the personality. We offer more than reformation. We offer regeneration. By the grace of God all sinners can become new creatures in Christ Jesus.

Questions for Discussion

1. How may the distinction between sins and sin help us to feel at one and sympathize with those who are being punished or rejected by society for their crimes and failures?
2. How does the Christian deal with the problem of guilt? What do we mean by the grace of God? Give some examples of the power of God's grace in the lives of people in the Bible and in church history.
3. Discuss the way in which you would witness about Christ to a prisoner or a derelict of society. Come up with some suggestions as to how our youth group may extend its ministry in reaching the lost.

Conclusion

We can only praise God that His mercy endures to all generations and that His grace is greater than all our sins. We are at a critical moment as we come to the end of this program, for we are at the moment of decision. Will we heed the call of Christ and implement the words that we have uttered here in His presence and the presence of others? Here is our opportunity to bring love—life's dynamic dimension—into the troubled lives of others.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| M. Apr. 26 | Living Sacrifices | Romans 12:1-3 |
| T. Apr. 27 | Works of Love | I Corinthians 13:1-7 |
| W. Apr. 28 | Love Unfailing | I Corinthians 13:8-13 |
| T. Apr. 29 | You Are Not on a Lonely Island | Romans 12:4-8 |
| F. Apr. 30 | Faith at Work | James 2:17,18 |
| S. May 1 | An Ode to Love in Action | Romans 12:14-21 |
| Sun. May 2—Topic: | Love That's Living | Luke 10:25-37 |

Comments by Rev. Allen A. Ruscito, assistant pastor and minister of Christian education of the First Presbyterian Church, Dunellen, New Jersey

Topic 1 in a Unit: Today's Dreams Become Tomorrow's Responsibilities

We Want to Get Married

Genesis 2:21-24

(Mother's Day)



Panel Selection

A panel of carefully selected adults could be used with a young person as moderator to present this topic in an effective manner. The moderator will be considered the leader of this topic presentation and will accept the responsibilities of the leader of the topic.

The most capable authorities to present married life are those who have successful marriages. Consult your pastor about selecting four couples from your church to serve as panelists. If at all possible, use couples who have been married different lengths of time. For instance, one couple should be newlyweds married a year or less. Use another couple who have been married at least five years and not more than seven years. Ask another couple who have been married ten to fifteen years to serve as your third set of panelists. If you can, have as your fourth couple, a couple who have had fifty years of marriage or more. This panel consisting of couples with varied time lengths of marriage will give a very enlightening and interesting presentation on marriage. It will help to show there are many stages and lots of hard work in developing a successful marriage.

Panel Question List

The moderator, after consulting with the pastor on the proper selection of adults, should ask these adults to serve as panelists as soon as possible. At the same time the request for them to serve as panelists is being made, a list containing the questions to be asked by the moderator must be given each panelist. This will give the panelists time to consider each question carefully. The list of questions might be as follows:

1. If a young person is a sincere and dedicated Christian, should he look for a mate who shares this love for Christ?
2. What are some qualities to look for in selecting a marriage partner?
3. Do successful marriages always run smoothly?
4. Can the handling of money create problems in a marriage?
5. Will children cement a marriage?
6. Is it important that you like and try to get to know your future in-laws?
7. Should your goals, plans, and aims for the future be discussed with your fiancé?
8. How does the man's choice of a career affect his choice of a wife?
9. Will your moral conduct on a date now affect your married life?
10. Is church affiliation a vital factor in building a successful marriage?

Use this list as a guide. Your group will have others to add or some they feel are more important. At a meeting prior to this presentation the group should list questions they would like a panel to answer and discuss.

Scripture References

As the moderator presents each question to the panel, he will read Scripture that will present a guide to both panelists and society members as they discuss and consider the question.

The Scriptures listed in the Daily Bible Reading for this topic will be of great importance and a helpful guide as you select Scripture to stimulate thinking on Christian marriage.

Another Bible passage that will aid the moderator is found in I Corinthians 13. In this passage, Paul defines Christian love; however, it could be emphasized that these same principles can be applied to the husband-and-wife relationship.

One more Bible passage that will lead to important discussion on the problems of dating non-Christians is found in II Corinthians 6:14-18.

Program Plan

Prelude: Pianist plays appropriate wedding music as the members assemble for the meeting and sign the guest book.

Ushers: See that everyone is seated.

Soloist: Sings *Because* or another favorite.

Candle-lighters

Wedding March

Call to Worship: Pastor reads wedding vows.

Opening Prayer: Moderator

Talk on Counseling: Pastor

Moderator's Introductory Talk: Introductions and statement of purpose

Panel Presentation

Discussion of Questions

Audience Participation

Concluding Remarks: Pastor

Closing Prayer: Pastor

Additional Aids

As leader and moderator of this meeting you should be a well-informed program participant. Your panelists will have experience to aid them in their answers; yours will have to come from other sources. Of course, you will use the Bible as your main source. There are also many books written on this subject. Go to your church library for books that would be of particular interest to teenagers. Make a list of these books so that if some of the young people at the meeting ask questions you feel could be answered by some careful study in a particular book, you can give them the title.

An excellent book available in the *International Christian Endeavor Catalog of Literature and Supplies* is *Making Good as Young Couples*. This book gives seventeen real life stories of typical marriages facing problems in married life. It also includes a section entitled "Questions by the Way," which will give you lots of excellent questions for discussion.

Other books that will give a Christian viewpoint are as follows:

1. *Billy Graham Talks to Teen-Agers*. The chapter on "Brides and Grooms" has excellent advice in a six-fold prescription to a happy marriage.

2. *The Years That Count* by Rosalind Rinker has three chapters that deal with dating.

3. *The 7 Teen Years* by Alberta Z. Brown has one chapter in particular that could be used for discussion. It is entitled "Stealing from Tomorrow."

4. Pat Boone's book *Twixt Twelve and Twenty* contains lots of sound advice. The two chapters entitled "April Love" and "The Happy Home Corporation" will be of special interest as you prepare your program.

These books will help to give you a teenager's well-informed opinion as you direct questions and guide the discussion.

Program Preparation

To have a really effective program, everything must be well co-ordinated. This suggested plan will help you as a

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leader, and it may stimulate the devotional committee to plan an even better presentation. Be sure it is one that will stimulate each member's interest and start him thinking about the topic to be presented.

Program Participants

Almost everyone has attended a wedding before, and so each participant should be able to act out his part effectively if instructed properly.

If you have a capable pianist in your society use him as your pianist. If not ask your church pianist to play for this meeting. As the members arrive, have the pianist play appropriate music. Also, have two or three fellows serve as ushers to see that each member is taken to a seat as soon as he signs the guest book. Then, at the beginning of the program, have one of your talented young people sing a solo. There are several lovely pieces that are used at weddings.

Immediately following the selection, have the candle-lighters come in and light the candles. If at all possible have them wear formals or dressy dresses. After they are seated your minister and the moderator can come out a side door and stand as the wedding march is played. A flower girl, perhaps a member of the Primary Christian Endeavor wearing her Sunday best, could toss flower petals in front of the panelists walking slowly in pairs to the front of the room. Then have your minister ask everyone to remain standing as he reads the marriage vows. The moderator will then give an opening prayer, after which he will ask everyone to be seated. He will introduce the pastor and ask him to present his talk on pre-marriage interviews and counseling.

Then the moderator will give an introduction of each panel member and present the purpose of the panel. Each question will then be presented to the panel for discussion. If time permits, an audience participation time in questions and discussion could be held.

At all times the moderator will see that the program runs smoothly and that each panelist who wants to speak has an opportunity. The different age groups were selected to give different viewpoints and to show the different stages of development in marriage. So be sure each couple is used throughout the presentation.

Since your minister is a guest participant, he could be asked to give some

concluding remarks and close the meeting with prayer.

Room Arrangement

The arrangement of the room where the meeting will be held will add so much to the success of the meeting. Arrange the chairs so they are all facing the front of the room where a platform is prepared. Be sure to have a middle aisle wide enough for the flower girl and the panelists to march down. If at all possible, borrow baskets and candle arbors from the church or a local florist. Use artificial flowers for the baskets; however, your church flower committee may be able to supply you with real flowers. Candles can be purchased, or there might be some left over from the last wedding held in your church. Some of the fellows in your Christian Endeavor can build you a simple platform. This will be where the panel members, minister, and moderator are to sit during the program. Enough chairs must be placed on the platform prior to the meeting for the participants.

Some societies have a guest book for visitors and guests to sign at meetings. Why not have each member sign the guest book for this meeting as he enters the room? Ask someone to be in charge of the guest book. Secure the guest book from your secretary and provide a pen for signing. See that a chair and a small table are placed near the entrance door.

This will add much to the wedding atmosphere and make each Christian Endeavor member feel a definite part of the program. If your society does not have a guest book, this would be a good time to approach your lookout committee about the purchase of one. A simple one can be made, or a small spiral notebook could be covered with white paper and *Guests* written on the cover with gold ink. It would be appropriate to title a new page in the book, *The _____ Senior Christian Endeavor presented We Want to Get Married*, devotional meeting on Mother's Day, May 9, 1965, and the following members, guests, and visitors were present.

This will aid the lookout committee in checking their membership list for address changes and in adding any new names to their prospective list.

Your devotional committee will think of things to add to the above suggestions that will create atmosphere for the meeting. Check with your pastor as you plan, because he will know of things you can use and whom to contact for permission to secure certain items.

Wedding Ceremony

(From the pastor of the Redmond Christian Church, Marlin Love, a copy of his favorite wedding ceremony was obtained. Below you will find a portion of that ceremony which can be used for

your call to worship.) Your own local pastor will have one you can use, but this one will give you a suggestion of how it will fit into the entire program.

"Beloved, we are gathered together here, in the presence of our God and before the face of this company, to join this man and this woman in Holy Matrimony."

"Marriage is one of the most profound and sacred ceremonies existing among mankind. It is more than joining of hands, the exchanging of rings, and the repetition of ritual. It is not merely the demonstration of legally and formally joining man and woman for the expression of emotional frivolity. It is a God-given means for the hallowing and sanctifying of the closest and dearest relationship of man and woman. It is the foundation of a home, the bulwark of society, and the preserver of true love. It is the answer for the desired union of two souls contracted to each other. Truly it is not of light consequences, but it is the result of the highest and noblest relationship desired by two lives yearning for oneness."

"A harmonious marriage calls for the greatest devotion, the firmest integrity, and the deepest sense of right, goodness, and respect. It should stimulate the loftiest and holiest ideals ever conceived in the finite mind, and it should promote a living demonstration of those principles contributed by Infinity. A happy marriage demands the keenest mind, the bravest heart, the strongest spirit, and the purest moral conduct."

"To use this holiest of human relationships indiscreetly, selfishly; to neglect its duties, to abuse its privileges is to be guilty of the gravest moral wrong. To be disloyal to the vows taken is to break a union established by God, and to sever that which he has joined together. To refuse to live up to its demands is to betray the deepest trust, the sincerest confidence, and simplest faith. To fail to keep the fires of love, gentleness, and kindness kindled is to crush the very heart of the most beautiful of God's institutions, and to wound and bruise a living soul."

"Marriage is an honorable estate, instituted by God, sanctioned by Christ, and proclaimed by the Holy Spirit, through holy men, as esteemable and desirable."

Daily Bible Readings

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| M. May | 3 | The Divine Purpose of Marriage | Genesis 1:18-24 |
| T. May | 4 | Straight from the Shoulder | Proverbs 4 |
| W. May | 5 | A Young Wife's Ideal | Proverbs 31:10-29 |
| T. May | 6 | Love's Sweet Song | Song of Solomon 4:9-11 |
| F. May | 7 | Love's Story | Ruth 2:1-23 |
| S. May | 8 | Paul's Advice | Ephesians 5:21-33 |
| Sun. May | 9 | Topic: We Want to Get Married | Genesis 2:21-24 |

(Mother's Day)

Comments by Mrs. Ray Pulsifer, who with her husband is counselor of the high school society of the Christian Church in Redmond, Oregon

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topic 2 in a Unit: Today's Dreams Become Tomorrow's Responsibilities

Factors of a Christian Home

Exodus 20:12; Colossians 3:20

Explanation of Presentation

The following presentation will take more time and preparation than the average lesson topic, but the rewards of this type of presentation can be well worth the effort. If at all possible the playlets should be presented to an audience of both adults and young people. Perhaps arrangements could be made with your pastor for adults and parents to visit your Christian Endeavor society to see this particular presentation. Since the topic deals with the whole family, the parents of your Christian Endeavor society could be special guests for the meeting.

Selection of young people for the parts in the playlets should be done by the devotional committee with the aid of the sponsor. In almost every group of young people there are some who have some acting and memorization ability. Perhaps there are some young people who belong to the high school Thespians who could help in these playlets and use their talents to serve the Lord.

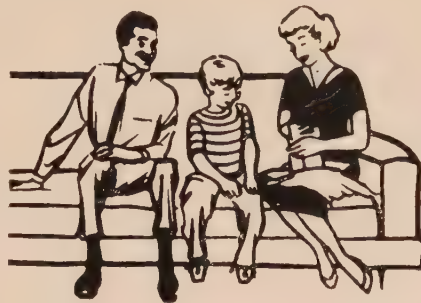
Each playlet will have at least four basic characters: a father, a mother, an older teen-age daughter, and a younger teen-age brother. This same family can be used throughout the six sequences, or if your society is large and a large cast is available, a different set of characters can be used for each family skit.

The stage setting does not have to be elaborate and the same living-room setting can be used throughout the entire program. The stage or platform used should be made to resemble a combination living-room and dining-room area.

Costumes for the playlets will be simple since it will be modern dress. The young people portraying the father and mother will need to wear apparel that will give an appearance of adults, while the teen-agers will dress in appropriate attire for their age group.

Announcer

An announcer or master of ceremonies will be needed to keep things running smoothly and to give adequate time between playlets to prepare for the next one. If there is someone in your group who loves to ham up a situation, ask him to be your announcer and plan his own six introductions. The playlets will be presented as commercials with six sequences to the entire presentation. The "before-and-after" approach will be given to each product. The "before" sequence of each product will of course show the lack of this product; so as the announcer introduces these particular playlets he should emphasize the need for the use of that particular characteristic. The announcer will also give three sales talks presenting the three products that will help to establish a happy home life for the



"after" sequences, definitely showing that the use of teen-age cooperation will change this home and make it a pleasant home for the family living there.

Appropriate Titles

The use of antonyms of the three characteristics makes interesting and unusual titles for the before sequences. Listed below are some examples; others can be found in *Roget's Thesaurus*.

1. Chaos and Havoc—cooperation
2. Disrespect—consideration
3. Self-centered—participation

Familiar quotations make excellent titles for the after sequences. As you read the list, others just as useful and perhaps better suited to the word characteristics will be recalled.

1. *Home Sweet Home*—cooperation
2. *Father Knows Best*—consideration
3. *There Is No Place Like Home*—participation

Scripts

The script for each sequence does not need to be extensive. A simple dialogue will be adequate to show the need of these characteristics in Christian home life. If the script is not too strict a dialogue, memorization will not be as difficult and the time required to master the playlets will be shorter. If all the members selected as actors can also be used in helping to write the script, it will be much easier for them to memorize their particular parts. Writing a playlet can be a great deal of fun and a new experience for many young people. Perhaps your high school drama teacher can give you some pointers and assistance as you write your script.

CHAOS AND HAVOC

ANNOUNCER: *Chaos and Havoc*, our first presentation, certainly will show the *lack of cooperation*. It will also show that about all this family receives each morning is nervous indigestion.

PRESENTATION: The playlet opens with a

breakfast scene at the Smith house. Mom is hurriedly setting the table while she calls to the different members to come to breakfast. She receives no response the first time, and so she calls again. This time she receives an unpleasant answer from Sue telling her she will be down in a minute. Dad comes to the table and sits down to eat. Mom calls again with much less patience in her voice. Dad threatens to come and get them if they don't appear immediately. Sue then comes to the table, starts to eat; her friends come to the door asking her to walk with them. Mom refuses because she has not completed her breakfast. Sue cries because her prospective boy friend was in the group. Bob enters the room on the run, grabs a piece of toast, and keeps going without a word to anyone. After the teen-agers have gobbled and hurried out, Mom discovers Bob has left his sack lunch on the table. Dad is very disgusted because this means he must go out of his way to work to take Bob's lunch to him. Playlet ends with Mom complaining as she clears the table that everyone has ruined her day already!

HOME SWEET HOME

ANNOUNCER: Our after sequence uses the ingredient of *teen-age cooperation*. We immediately see the change in a home that works at being cooperative. Simple acts of cooperation can make the real difference.

PRESENTATION: Again, the playlet opens with Mom setting the table. Only this time she has to call only once, and the entire family cheerfully comes to the table to eat. There is time for a blessing given by Dad. The prayer could be that this skit would encourage cooperation in family life, as well as be a model blessing. The family then eats and converses with adequate time to eat properly. Bob asks to be excused, gets his lunch, has time to obtain permission to go to a friend's after school. The door bell rings and Sue's friends ask her to accompany them to school. Her parents naturally approve since there is an organized departure and she has finished her breakfast. Mom and Dad have a few moments by themselves to chat and finish their coffee as the scene ends.

DISRESPECT

ANNOUNCER: *Disrespect*—this certainly is something every family can do without. Too many homes today have teen-agers who are disrespectful to both of their parents.

PRESENTATION: This skit starts out with Sue leaving to attend a Christian Endeavor committee meeting. As she leaves, she is reminded to come straight home to complete her theme which is due tomorrow. She promises she will hurry right home. A lapse of time is indicated, and the mother becomes concerned. Dad calls the counselor and learns the meeting was over two hours ago. He is also told she left with several of her friends. Sue finally arrives home a few minutes later. She is asked for an explanation, and she is very nonchalant about the fact she went from the meeting to the drug store for a coke and got to talking and lost track of the time. Her mother reminds her she knew she was to come straight home after the meeting. Sue then starts to argue with her mother, but finally admits she hurried the group because she realized they were late. Then they drove too fast and received a traffic violation ticket.

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Sue's father is disgusted and tells Sue she will be grounded for a week without any exceptions to the penalty. She is then told to go straight to bed because it is so late. The scene ends with Sue in tears because she can not complete her theme on time.

FATHER KNOWS BEST!

ANNOUNCER: *Father Knows Best*, and father does 90 per cent of the time, which is a good percentage in any establishment. The head of the house must be shown respect just as a boss on the job or the president of a company. Sure, fathers all make mistakes; don't you? Just remember they are trying to do what is best for you. Be honest with yourself and look back. Remember—almost all of your biggest mistakes were made when you disobeyed someone. Maybe it was a teacher, your parents, or God, but teen-agers who try to be respectful and obedient to adults and faithful to their Christian convictions are the ones who become well-adjusted adults. Talk to adults you respect and ask them what they think your attitude toward your parents should be. Respect will play an important role in their answers.

PRESENTATION: Again, we see Sue leaving to attend the Christian Endeavor committee meeting. As Sue leaves her father reminds her to come home right after the meeting. Later she calls home to ask permission to go with the gang for a coke. Sue is refused permission because she has a theme to write, and so she explains to friends and comes straight home. She sits down and starts to write her theme when she receives a phone call asking her for a date for the following night. Her parents are happy to give their permission because she has been obedient and will have time to complete her theme.

SELF-CENTERED

ANNOUNCER: Too many homes have too many self-centered members living together. Everyone thinks of only his own wants and desires, never of others. The main argument and perhaps the only one needed against self-centered people is that it is not the Christian way of life. Everyone who is a Christian knows thinking of others first brings the greatest Christian joy.

PRESENTATION: As the playlet begins we see everyone going in opposite directions. Mom is hurrying to get ready for a club meeting. Dad is accepting an invitation to watch the fights on television with a neighbor. Sue answers the phone and receives a slumber party invitation. Bob reminds his folks he has to play basketball with the fellows at the gym tonight. Sue frantically looks for clothes to take for school tomorrow, and then she begs her Mom to iron a blouse for her because she has to leave in ten minutes. Bob interrupts and wants his mother to take him to the gym because he is too late to walk. Dad reminds Mom he wants an early dinner because the fights will soon be starting. The scene ends with Mom refusing everyone because she has a dinner club meeting and she has just enough time to get ready herself.

THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME!

ANNOUNCER: There is no place like home, and there really isn't! Just thinking about

being away from home for the holidays leaves you with an empty feeling, doesn't it? The nicest memories you will have of home after you leave are the ones when the whole family did something together. This calls for family participation, and this means each member must participate in an activity together. Self-centered members are not needed or wanted in a family group who shares several activities. This does not mean everything you do must be done together, but surprise your family by suggesting you all go on that camping trip Dad has been dreaming about for three years. Or how about the trip to the zoo little Sis has been begging to take all spring? When everyone goes with the purpose of being sure little Sis has the time of her life, guess what will happen? Mom, Dad, Butch, and you will end having as much fun and enjoyment as little Sis did! Try it and see! Now let's look at family cooperation in action.

PRESENTATION: Everyone is getting ready to attend special services at the church. Sue's girl friend is going along, and she has been invited to stay overnight at Sue's. She comments that she loves to come to Sue's because Sue's family plans to do things together. At her house everyone is so involved in his own interests there is never time to plan family activities. Sue explains they do both—that they try to schedule their activities so family fun isn't left out. Bob further explains that one night a week is reserved for a family night. It isn't always the same night because school and church activities are considered, and sometimes a whole day is used for an outing. He further explains that Dad and Mom both have personal interests too and if they can take time out for him and Sue, they certainly can for them too. The entire group then sits around discussing the anticipated special services. They explain to Sue's girl friend why it was selected as their family fun night. There will be an excellent religious film, a chance to see friends, and of course Bob adds, yummy refreshments. The playlet closes with Sue's girl friend, Sally, thanking the entire family for taking her along and letting her share in their family fun.

Conclusion

ANNOUNCER: I am sure if we took a survey of the studio audience we would find your home could use some of these products we have presented. We would like to conclude our entire presentation with one last glimpse at the Smith family using a product called *family devotions*. This is very new to many of you, but homes that have family devotions find them a great asset in their family life. Maybe you as a young person can be instrumental in establishing family worship in your home now. Let's look in and see how the Smiths conduct their family devotions.

PRESENTATION: The family is all seated and Dad explains each member was to look up and select a Scripture on Christian home life to present and discuss. He starts out by reading the Scripture passage from Joshua 24:14,15. Dad explains he feels a father must set the example as a Christian and help his family to serve the Lord. He also reads I Timothy 5:8 and states he knows as this passage clearly points out he must provide for his own family.

Sue adds that she found out something about her responsibility to the family and

then reads from the New Testament in Modern English translated by J. B. Phillips, Colossians 3:18-21. Sue concludes her Scripture reading by telling she didn't realize until reading this particular version that obedience to parents was a way a teen-ager can show his love for the Lord. She feels she will not resent some of the family rules any longer because she will try to remember as she obeys them she will be showing her love for the Lord.

Bob has read several passages of Scripture in Proverbs about a father giving his son advice, and his favorite one to share is Proverbs 4:1-9, which he reads aloud. Bob believes that this certainly points out that parents' advice and instruction are to be cherished and not tossed aside. He also states he hopes in the future he will be more attentive when Mom and Dad are talking to him for his own good.

Mom has two passages of Scripture to read. She wants to share them because she feels they have helped her in her important and cherished role of being a mother and wife. The first one, Proverbs 22:6, shows her that her responsibility as a parent is great, but if she does her best her children will remember their training. The next one, Deuteronomy 6:4-9, reminds her she must be continually giving her children religious instruction so they will learn to love the Lord as much as she does.

The family then joins hands and closes with a sentence prayer from each member that these Scriptures will help each one to be a better family member and to try to think of each other as they live daily.

Evaluation

An evaluation of each playlet should be made after the entire presentation. To aid in the evaluation and discussion, give each member present at the beginning of the program, a pencil and lined paper containing the titles of each playlet to be presented. Make clear instructions to the members that after each "before" skit, he will make a list of the things he sees that are wrong in the skit and could be corrected. Immediately following the "after" skit he will check off the ones he feels were corrected by the application of cooperation, etc.

At the close of the playlets make a chalk board list of all unfavorable conditions found in the Smith home in the first "before" sequence. Then with the aid of the members' lists check each off and explain in discussion how it was corrected in the "after" skit. Try to discuss in detail each member's role and responsibility in family situations of this nature. This evaluation at the close of the program will help the audience to remember the lessons portrayed and will help them to make definite decisions in their own lives.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| M. May 10 | Love's Difficult Decisions | Ruth 1 |
| T. May 11 | Love's Obligations | I Timothy 5:3-16 |
| W. May 12 | An Example from the Cross | John 19:25-30 |
| T. May 13 | How Much More Should You? | Luke 10:25-37 |
| F. May 14 | Make Allowances for Differences | Romans 13:11-14:12 |
| S. May 15 | Paul's Advice | Ephesians 6:1-4 |
| Sun. May 16—Topic: Factors of a Christian Home | Exodus 20:12; Colossians 3:20 | |

Comments by Mrs. Ray Pulsifer, who with her husband is counselor of the high school society of the Christian Church in Redmond, Oregon

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

Topic 1 in a Unit: New Concepts in the Christian Ministry

God Wants You

John 1:35-42

For Publicity

Prepare a poster of a young man sitting at a desk and dreaming about his tomorrows. Caption the picture with these words: "Why not the ministry?"

Prepare a letter for each member with the qualifications for a minister and a warmhearted invitation to attend this meeting. Consult your pastor for such qualifications. You could also raise some questions in this letter to your society members. *Why should the minister have special training, when he is to be dependent upon the Holy Spirit? What should be the hours of work for a pastor? Should a pastor stamp a time card? When he has his eight hours in, should he get paid for overtime?* Ask your members to think about these questions.

Select a few "one-minute" men who will make announcements concerning this meeting in Sunday school and in church services.

Get a photograph of your pastor and place it on a poster card and surround it with items of interest for the meeting night.

To the Leader

Satisfied people are usually very dull; at least they are far from being interesting. Discontent is always a healthy sign in an individual or a nation. When you pick up this topic to do something good with it, remember that discontent means growing pains, a reaching out for something better and happier.

Prepare yourself well. Really study this topic. Do some underneath thinking. Don't be content with the mere reading of the topic wherever you find it. Do more than that. Read it many times and think deeply as you read. Ask yourself some questions: *What do I expect to do with this topic? As I face the society members, what is my purpose in telling them that God wants them?* If you have some questions about the ministry or any other Christian vocation, consult your pastor for guidance.

After you have worked hard on the topic, remember that it is a sure sign

of progress when people are discontented, never satisfied. When you feel you have actually done your very best and there is a sense of a job well done blooming within you, you are ready to speak your mind and heart. Do it unto the Lord. Ask Him, and He will help you and make you a blessing to each society member.

Encourage group participation. Get as many of your members involved as is possible. This adds up to a very interesting meeting.

Introduction of Topic

Too many times when we say to our friends, "God wants you," they get the image of a minister fixed in their minds. For some reasons too many people forget that there are other avenues of Christian service apart from the ministry. We must seek to correct this view. We need Christian doctors. We need ministers of Christian education. We need ministers of music. When we say to a friend, "God wants you," we ought to keep in mind the best use of the talents which God

Who me?

has given that person. We naturally want to stress the importance of the practice of the Christian faith in all vocations.

But let's think now about the Gospel ministry. Let's think about our pastor and countless other pastors who feel deeply within their hearts that God has called them to this very high office.

The minister's responsibility within the church is not merely dual; it is manifold. He must have a proper balance as preacher, pastor, executive, and administrator. The pastor is the sponsor and co-guardian with every other Christian of the morals of the church and community. He has entrance into every home and into the lives of all the members of the church.

Perhaps some of us discussing this topic have never given the Gospel ministry a single thought. There may be others listening to this topic who many times have had questions passing through their minds regarding the ministry. But one thing sure is that each one sitting in this meeting could have something to say about the ministry.

Take another look at our pastor. See him as a psychologist, psychoanalyst, psychiatrist, judge, jury, and many times the general "trouble shooter." This man must be trusted. He must be honest. He must be a credit to his profession. He must be a prophet, priest, missionary, educator, student, parliamentarian, advertiser, promoter, dramatist, and a number of other things, but he is never a boss.

Did you ever think of our pastor as Mr. Izer? Well, he is an Izer regardless of how you look at him. He is a *mobilizer*. Mobilization has been the task of the minister throughout the history of the Christian church. He cannot evade it. (Be sure you read Luke 14:23.)

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Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name" (Psalm 100:4).

Hymn: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways*

Scripture Reading: John 1:35-42

Special Number: Vocal or instrumental

Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us*

Prayer: Ask for requests

Announcements and Offering

Introduction of Topic by Leader

Topic Discussion

Topic Summary

Hymn: *I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go*

Closing Prayer

(Continued from previous page)

He is an *evangelizer*. Evangelization is the only excuse for mobilization. Evangelization is the last hope for a confused world, and the minister has a commission from heaven to do the job.

He is an *organizer*. Mobilization without organization leaves us with a mob on our hands. If the work of the church is to proceed in orderly fashion, the ministry must organize.

He is a *harmonizer*. He is not an umpire. He is not a referee. He is not a judge. He is one who brings into agreement. He causes to agree, to reconcile, and to be in peace and friendship.

He is a *spiritualizer*. The minister must lead the flock into deep spiritual experiences. Therefore, he must share such experiences himself. He must find the Upper Room for himself, and his life must be charged with God's presence.

If God wants you for the holy ministry, you can expect some things. God must call you. You must have certain gifts. When you see certain gifts manifested in the life of a young person, you naturally think he has some equipment for the ministry. Of course, he could be a good missionary also. He could also be a good minister of Christian education. He could also be a minister of music. Of course, you see very readily that each of these callings carries with it different abilities and talents. How foolish to be a minister of music within the church and not know the scale and have no ear and heart for music. The minister of education must know the whole field of Christian education. The pastor must know the church and her needs and the community in which he ministers. He must know and love people. People are his responsibility.

One of the finest monuments in America is just outside Trinity Church, Boston. The statue is done by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, depicting Phillips Brooks in the pulpit. Christ stands behind him. His hand is resting on the preacher's shoulder. This great preacher could not be explained apart from Jesus Christ. The wonderful companionship between the preacher and His Lord was evident and radiant in every sermon.

Take another look at the topic *God Wants You*. What are you cut out to be? You may be cut out for several pursuits, but there may be hindrances to discovering what they are. You may lack the ambition to find out. You may be limited by circumstances which seem beyond control. Does God want you? What

Questions for Discussion

1. How do you react when someone confronts you and tells you that God wants him for some task? What are some of your personal reactions to such a question? Do you question the man's call?
2. What are some of the recognized obstacles in answering God's call for one's life?
3. Do you think there is a tendency to get mixed up with selflessness and our inherent or acquired selfishness?
4. Is it possible to become very impatient when God is trying to break through to us to get us to see His plan for our lives?
5. How do you react when you hear that someone who cannot get along with people and whose whole personality appears to be out of line declares that God is calling him for some type of special service? What should your response be?

makes you feel deeply in your mind and heart that God wants you? Let us follow through on these ideas.

Topic Discussion

1. Take your parents into your confidence. Respect their opinions. You may not do what they say, but you owe it to them to consider carefully what they have to say. They have a right to an explanation of your decisions. If you expect them to be reasonable, you must be reasonable also.

2. When investigating, be very thorough. You may feel that God wants you, but you must be very sure, for a great deal depends upon your answer to His call. Therefore, you must investigate and be very thorough. You should explore a variety of fields with an open mind. Whatever you think you would like if God would call you or want you, examine the job requirements, advantages, and disadvantages. Sit down with others who are now in the field and secure their opinions and directions. Be thorough!

3. Search the Scriptures. Abraham knew that God wanted him (Genesis 12:1). Moses knew that God wanted him (Exodus 3:10). Joshua knew that God wanted him (Deuteronomy 31:23). The Bible will tell you that Gideon, Samuel, Solomon, Amos, the apostles, Paul, all of these men knew that God wanted them to do some very specific thing for Him. They knew it, and nobody could change their minds about the call they felt within their minds and hearts.

4. Be much in prayer. The Psalmist gave himself unto prayer. Daniel prayed for wisdom. You must wait upon God. He is able to guide you and give you careful directions in choosing your vocation.

5. Consult with your pastor. He is a man of widening experience. He cares for the flock. He has deep concern for his people. He is well qualified to understand your problem and to give you careful direction. One day God wanted him, and he responded to the call of God. Do you know of a man better qualified to help you than your pastor? He will deal with you out of a deep compassion and concern.

Topic Summary

1. Is God trying to say to you, "Follow me"?
2. What makes you feel or think that God really wants you?
3. If you believe He wants you, what do you think He wants you to do?
4. If He does want you to do something special for Him, would you be willing to take hours, months, and years to prepare yourself for the task?
5. Are you willing to work in season and out of season for long hours and experience much mental tiredness and weariness?
6. Can you stand criticism? Make up your mind, for you are going to get it. It will come.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| M. May 17 | Fishing for Men | Luke 5:1-11 |
| T. May 18 | A New Point of View | Acts 9 |
| W. May 19 | Woe Is Me! | Isaiah 6 |
| T. May 20 | Who Am I? | Exodus 3:1-12 |
| F. May 21 | Speak Lord | I Samuel 3 |
| S. May 22 | Accomplishing Life's Impossibles | I Samuel 17:41-54 |
| Sun. May 23—Topic: God Wants You | | John 1:35-42 |

Comments by Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart, pastor of the Boulevard Evangelical Congregational Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Hymns listed in program outlines in **THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD** have been selected from the new **CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS**. This book, with an attractive orange and black krome-kote cover, contains 138 songs and hymns and 20 responsive Scripture readings for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216. Price: 60¢ each, \$6 per dozen, \$48 per hundred.

Topic 2 in a Unit: New Concepts in the Christian Ministry

Creative Witnessing

I Corinthians 9:16-27

For Publicity

This topic has to do with *creative* witnessing. You ought to do some *creative* thinking about publicity!

Get someone who can draw a court scene, or try to find a picture of a court scene. Place it upon a poster card and caption it with these words: *Where's the witness?* Why not ask your church secretary to prepare a bulletin dealing with the joys of witnessing for Jesus Christ and at the base of the bulletin include the announcement concerning this meeting?

Select four witnesses as "one-minute" men to make announcements in the Sunday school. Ask the pastor about making an announcement in the church service for Christian Endeavor.

The Sunday of your meeting have prepared small oval pieces of paper with these words: **YOU ARE A WITNESS. ALL WITNESSES ARE NEEDED TONIGHT.** State the time of meeting. Have these pinned on the members and friends of your society.

For the Leader

The first thing you should do is to sit down in a quiet place and read carefully the Scripture lesson assigned to this topic: I. Corinthians 9:16-27. Look especially at verse 16. Can you feel in your own heart the responsibility that was laid upon the apostle Paul as he stood face to face with the Gospel?

You are to prepare your own mind and heart on this topic dealing with creative witnessing. Examine verse 22. Even though we witness to many people, this does not indicate that we are going to win them all. You must remember that this is one of the reasons why the church is so barren. We do not have many of God's people within the church bearing witness for Jesus Christ.

Now think about this and see what you can do in presenting this topic to challenge those who come that they might enlist themselves in this holy art of winning people through witnessing. A witness ought to have something to say. He ought to know what he is talking about. Keep these points in mind as you prepare the topic.

Introduction to the Topic

Church work is a business. It is big business, for it is God's business. It is also our business if we are the true followers of Jesus Christ. Christian Endeavor is our business also. We ought to

do something about it. It is one thing to discuss it, but it is another thing to get out there in the field and do something about it.

Our topic *Creative Witnessing* in a sense explains itself. What we are trying to say is this: we ought to think up new ways of telling the story of the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What does God expect of us? (*Read Acts 1:8.*) Here we are instructed that all genuine believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are indeed witnesses. Note the words "Ye shall be witnesses unto me." It is difficult to escape the "ye." We feel tagged when we read it. We know that the Lord had us in mind. As we face our workaday world, we are to be His witnesses wherever we go.

After the Spirit of God gripped the disciples, it was expected of them to witness in the power of the Holy Spirit. They were instructed to do this at the home base and to move out into all Judea, into Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Have you observed the ever widening character of the Christian mission? The disciples, in their witness bearing, were to go out from Jerusalem, where the Christian movement



had had its beginnings and then into the world, the vast Gentile world, to touch the uttermost parts of the earth.

This is what God expects! This is a world embracing task. Even stouthearted men are often tempted to say, "Impossible." The men who heard Christ could not feel this way. They knew that they were to receive power, spiritual power. How much that would mean, they could know only after their hearts had been filled with the Spirit.

God planned to qualify them for their work. We must remember that this work, the work of teaching and preaching and building new hope into the lives of people, is indeed God's work. How wonderful that God sees fit to use us to do such a glorious task! They were to go forth and tell what they had seen and heard. The word for witness came also to mean a "martyr," one who seals his witness with his life. Many of His witnesses laid down their lives for the cause in which they believed.

God expects you also to be His witness! Christians have need of Christ and Christ has need of them. To be a good witness is an honorable but difficult function. In the case of a witness the real strain comes in cross-examination. Consider your former chums and associates who shared the life of sin with you, now that they know something has happened to you. They know a change has come into your life. They know that you are different. Now the hard part comes when they want to cross-examine you. They may be very much interested in what you believe, but they will appear more concerned about how you live. They do know that you no longer share the life of sin with them. They want to know

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Suggested Program

Pre-Prayer Service

Call to Worship: Psalm 59:17

Hymn: *Take My Life, and Let It Be*

Period of Meditation: Read Psalm 100

Reading of Scripture: I Corinthians 9:16-27

Hymn: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

Sentence Prayers

Special Music: Instrumental or vocal

Announcements and Offering

Introduction of the Topic

Discussion of the Topic

Summary of the Topic

Hymn: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

Benediction

(Continued from previous page)

what happened. They want to hear your testimony as a good witness for Jesus Christ. Now you must tell the story. Now you have ears that will hear the story. Be sure you tell it in the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the power Christ promises. Remember you are not on your own as a witness for Jesus Christ. You will be empowered by the Holy Spirit. Observe several things about this power.

1. *It is not physical power.* Samson had that when he carried upon his back the gates of Gaza, or with the jawbone of an ass slew the Philistines heaps upon heaps. It has nothing at all to do with bone and muscle and sinew. Men have sometimes forgotten this. They once thought that they could resist the spread of the Gospel by physical means. The very efforts which men have employed to suppress the truth have been made the means of exalting it to supremacy. We must learn that brute force can no more help the Gospel than hinder it. The weapons of their warfare were not to be carnal. No, it is not physical power.

2. *It is not the power of logic.* The disciples were to convert souls, and mere argument cannot do this. We are sent forth not to win arguments, but to win men and women for Jesus Christ. We must use the best of logic in telling our story, but it is not logic that gives us the power over the souls of men and women.

3. *It is not the power of eloquence.* None of us would despise eloquence. We must admit that there is a tremendous power in words. They breathe, they burn, and they fly about the world charged with force, but there is one thing they cannot do—they cannot regenerate a soul.

4. *It is spiritual power.* It was the power of the Holy Spirit that guided the apostles. It was the power of a living union with a living God. This promise has been fulfilled, but not exhausted. The light of the sun may fail, the waters of the ocean may be dried up, but the richness of Christ's fulness will be the same today, yesterday, and forever. We need this promised power as much as the apostles did. Nothing else can supply its place. It is to the church what steam is to the machinery. There is no successful witnessing for Christ without this power. But Christ's witnesses are all-powerful with it.

Discussion of the Topic

This is creative witnessing. Nobody should be frightened with this word

Questions for Discussion

1. Consider our church. How many of its members are truly witnessing for Jesus Christ?
2. Consider the past thirty days. How many of us took hold of the opportunity to share Jesus Christ with someone else?
3. If it is true that not many people are witnesses for Christ within and without the church, what do you think might be the reason for this silence on the part of God's people?
4. Read Acts 8:26-30. Why do you think Philip ran? Note the sharing of Philip in 8:35.
5. How can we develop ourselves to be good witnesses for Jesus Christ? How can we witness creatively in our community?

witness. Some people have strange ideas about it. No, it's not preaching. We should understand that it is *sharing*. When you are face to face with people you generally share something. You may share a funny incident. You may share a rich experience. You may share your excitement on a vacation trip. This kind of sharing appears to be very simple. And to witness for Jesus Christ is nothing else but sharing. Just like you share everything else with your friends, in like manner you can share Jesus Christ.

Observe the witness in a court of law. The lawyer does not ask him to tell what he thinks, but what he actually saw. The lawyer wants to know what he really and deeply knows about the case before the court. So he shares his testimony.

Sometimes we make witnessing very difficult. But it isn't that difficult, unless you have nothing to share. The child of God should have something to share. If you know that Jesus Christ is your Saviour and Lord and that your sins have been forgiven for His name's sake, than you really have something to share. This is what you share. You share Christ with your friends. There are many ways to witness in this manner.

1. *You can do it by mailing a letter.* This is creative witnessing. Often you may write to a friend outside of Jesus Christ and share Christ with him through a letter which is penned out of great and deep concern. When he reads the letter, he is relaxed, generally sitting down, and ready to think about what he reads. You drop something into his mind about Jesus Christ that he does not too easily shake off or forget. This is a good way to share Christ.

2. *You can do it by distributing Gospel tracts.* A drop of ink can make a million people think. Before you distribute tracts be sure you read them. Be careful what you hand to others. Be

sure the content is tied up with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Why not consult with your pastor about this matter? Not too many people do this kind of sharing, but it has rich profit. Many people have been reached for Jesus Christ through the mere reading of a Gospel tract.

3. *You can do it in a church census.* Suppose you wanted to discover how many children attend Sunday school around your own church. They live within reach of the church. The best way to find out is to knock on doors and ring doorbells. This will give you an opportunity to get inside of one's home and when the moment comes you can share Christ with him in a very interesting manner. Try it and see how it works!

4. *You can do it by personal witness.* Wherever you are and to whomsoever you speak you can be a well-balanced witness for Christ. You can never talk to the wrong person about Jesus Christ. Ask God for wisdom as you make the approach. People become your business. Each one is your personal responsibility. You will carry special concern for all. Try it!

Summary of the Topic

1. The true witness has something to share regarding Jesus Christ.
2. The child of God cannot escape his obligation "Ye shall be my witnesses."
3. Jesus gives us encouragement: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
4. Never forget that what you believe as a witness is one thing, but how you live each day is another thing. Sometimes your conduct can seal your lips.
5. You really cannot be a good witness with any degree of success unless you do it in the power of the Holy Spirit.
6. What reasons have I for not sharing Christ with my friends? Don't be a bystander; be a sharer. You are dedicated. Live the dedicated life. It is so simple to share Him when you know Him.

Daily Bible Readings

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| M. May 24 | Taking Hold upon | Life's Oppor- |
| tunities | | Acts 8:26-40 |
| T. May 25 | R.S.V.P. Immediately | Acts 9:19-22 |
| W. May 26 | Putting Truth above | Custom |
| | | Acts 10:23-43 |
| T. May 27 | Famine Relief | Acts 11:27-30 |
| F. May 28 | The Gospel Goes to | Europe |
| | | Acts 16:11-15 |
| S. May 29 | In the Midst of Greek | Culture |
| | | Acts 17:16-34 |
| Sun. May 30—Topic: | Creative Witnessing | |
| | | I Corinthians 9:16-27 |

Comments by Rev. Raymond C. Steinhart, pastor of the Boulevard Evangelical Congregational Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Topic Summaries for May

Prepared by the Adult Work Committee

The Adult Work Committee which prepared these summaries included Timothy J. Kribs, chairman; Rev. R. P. Carter, Wanna Sell, and Mrs. Roger D. Vander Kolk.

Personality Problems (two topics)

Note: The first topic in this series appeared in the March 1965 CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

2. Do You Ever Ask Why?

Matthew 12:37; Mark 14:66-72

"Angry?" "Hurt?" And you keep telling everyone and keep reminding them that they have offended you. Have you ever asked yourself why? Have you tried to figure out your own feelings? Your reactions to others and the situations in which you find yourself are only evidence of your innermost personality. You seldom take the time to figure out if you were angry because of what your friend did or if you were angry because of the kind of person you are inside. The reaction of Peter as recorded in Mark was a reaction that came not because of the maid's question but because Peter was what he was. He was a liar, but why? His anger was actually anger toward himself for being what he was. How often do you project your faults on others? How can you overcome the habit of using the mechanisms of anger, hurt, etc., to cover your own faults?

Guidance of Children (two topics)

1. Life Begins with Love

Luke 15:11-32; John 15:12-14; 3:16; I Corinthians 13

The foundation of everything else parents can do for their children is to love them. But love means many things. In this study you should explore what love really is, and how Christian young adults can prepare themselves to give their children a mature Christian love. True love is learned from the love which God offers us in Christ. The Scripture passages suggest many thoughts about this kind of love. Because of God's love for us, we are enabled to love Him in return. We become able to love others in an unselfish and sacrificial way. The Greek word for this kind of love is *agape*. It is very different from romantic love which in the

Greek is called *eros*. Discuss how inability to love in the *agape* way leads to marriage difficulties, and to deep problems in children's lives. Cite examples of "love" which is self-centered. Take some of the characteristics of *agape* love as Paul describes them in I Corinthians 13, and discuss how these might apply to typical situations in the home.

2. In the Nurture and Discipline of the Lord

Ephesians 6:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:1-7; Psalm 78:1-7

Parental responsibilities for guiding children include: correction or discipline, instruction, and example. (a) Have the group examine and discuss Old Testament views about discipline. Modern theories of child rearing have been contradictory and confusing. Over-permissiveness has had some bad results. Discuss how mature love for their children will lead Christian parents to set standards and apply corrective discipline. (b) It is common for adults to confess their inability to instruct their children in the Bible, and to leave this job to the Sunday school and Christian Endeavor society. What should parents be doing in the home about instructions in the faith? (c) What kind of example is needed? What should we do about our adult sins and shortcomings — should we conceal these things from our children? Would it be helpful to them to realize that their parents are not perfect, and do not pretend to be so? Can our example of humility, repentance, and confession be more helpful than anything else in leading our children to understand that the heart of the Gospel is God's forgiveness?

Family Devotions (two topics)

1. A House or a Home

Joshua 24:15-18; John 12:1-3

While the words "house" and "home" are very much alike in meaning and description, Edgar Guest, the poet, wrote, "It takes a heap o' living in a house to make it home." This poem, entitled *Home*, could be used in your meeting. What are some devotional aids that may be used in a home that will contribute to the lives of the members of the family? Are some homes "too religious"? Why your answer? Is it wise to teach small

children bedtime prayers? How can prayer and Bible reading help overcome temptations and problems? What influence can a Christian home have upon non-Christian friends and their families? Have at the meeting a display of helpful devotional materials and discuss these items and their use.

2. "Wait on the Lord"

Isaiah 40:28-31; John 20:11-18

All of us live in such a fast age that it is indeed hard to wait for a single thing. We complain if we have to wait for a red light at a busy crossing, or for a waitress in a restaurant, or for a clerk in a store. We rush here and there and sometimes we wonder how beneficial our rushing really is. We are in such a hurry for ourselves and others that often we try to hurry God's plan for life. When we learn to "wait on the Lord" we can receive rich blessings. God is a God of law and order but He is also a God Who moves in His own will and time. Why is it beneficial to take time to "wait on the Lord"? Do we always have to be alone to enjoy God's presence? Or with our family, or with a crowd? What are some of the contributions our family can receive, spiritually, physically, emotionally, or mentally, as we take time to be in God's presence?

Two Helpful Resources

With Young Adults in Christian Endeavor by Phyllis G. Brown and Bert H. Davis. This 48-page book covers leadership, organization, program, projects, and includes topic summaries for a year of meetings. Available for 75c from the Publishing Department of the International Society.

Bibliography for Adult and Young Adult Societies. Lists available resources under these headings: Adults in the Church, Bible, Church History, Citizenship, Evangelism, Family, Labor, Prayer, Programs, Projects, Science, Sex and Marriage, Stewardship, and Theology. Available without charge from the International Society.

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